ATHLETIC JOURNAL

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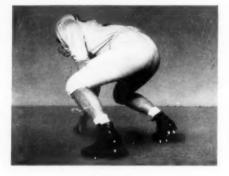
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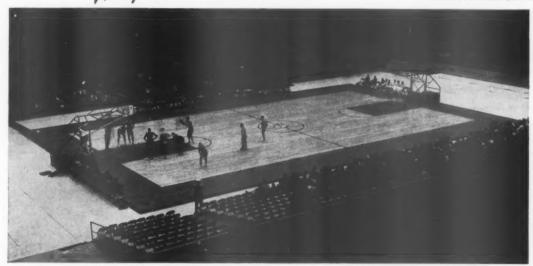
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### Volume XXXIX

Number 6

## February, 1959

#### **5 TRACK ARTICLES** THE 440 RECORD HOLDER Carl B. Antel TRAINING FOR THE DISTANCES Senon A. Castillo THE DISCUS ANALYZED Don Canham TRAINING PROGRAM FOR A CHAMPION HIGH SCHOOL HIGH HURDLER 32 A NEW TYPE OF INCENTIVE AWARD 69 Norman C. Lumian **5 BASEBALL ARTICLES** PLAYING CATCH WITH A PURPOSE 16 Glenn G. Dahlem DARING ON THE BASE PATHS 20 Robert T. Kretchmar THE PLAY OF THE CATCHER Frank Sancet HITTERS AND PLACE HITTING 40 Philip L. Philip TRAIN YOUR BASE COACHES 49 Norman F. Lehman 1 ARTICLE ON WEIGHT TRAINING INCREASE THE EXPLOSIVE POWER OF YOUR ATHLETES ..... 18 Edward S. Steitz 1 ARTICLE ON INTRAMURALS LIMA'S INTRAMURAL PROGRAM Dr. David O. Matthews 1 GENERAL ARTICLE NEW TRENDS IN TEACHING WILL HELP COACHING ...... 44 Charles Ream 6 FEATURES FROM HERE AND THERE . FOOTBALL DRILL OF THE MONTH ..... FOR YOUR BULLETIN BOARD (CATCHING THE BASEBALL) .... 34 NEW BOOKS 58 BUYERS GUIDE 65 NEW ITEMS .... 67

### FRONT COVER ILLUSTRATION

In the illustration of Dave Mills, new national high school record holder in the 440, notice that his feet are perfectly straight and he is completely relaxed. These photographs, taken with the Athletic Journal's high-speed camera, show a portion of the race just before Mills goes all-out for the final finishing effort.

### A Look At This Issue and a Glance Ahead

For the track coach, this issue presents pictorially, of course, three of the top track athletes, Dave Mills, Rink Babka, and Alex Henderson. For the baseball coach, there are four articles on his sport plus the gem by Frank Sancet. The 70 illustrations which are part and parcel of this article, combined with the baseball pictures in the January issue, make a neat total of 131 which we confidently predict will be more than three times as many as will be found in

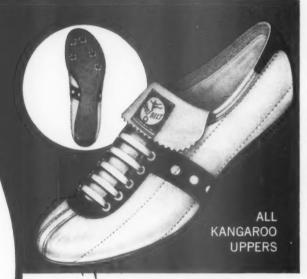
the next coaching magazine. We're not through either, because scheduled for March is a beaut of a pitching article, featuring three of the more successful younger major league pitchers, Dick Drott, Larry Jackson\_ and Dave Hillman. Next month we are presenting the second part of Don Canham's masterpiece on the discus, and will illustrate it with pictures of Al Oerter. With the spring sports soon in full swing, it's time to plan ahead for the fall. Now is the time to order your football equipment. We will help put you in that frame of mind by presenting several football articles.

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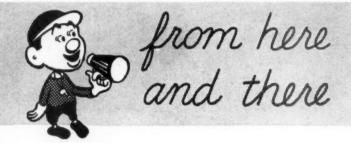
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INNESOTA has under consider-M ation a plan whereby the statesponsored tennis and golf tournaments would be held in the fall instead of the spring . . . Prior to the start of the current winter sports season, the Oklahoma State coaching staff had a combined record of 1001 wins, 323 losses, and 16 ties . . . During the school year, 1947-48, 451 Minnesota schools were enrolled in the Athletic Accident Benefit Plan. The number of pupils enrolled was 24,228 and the number of claims paid was 4,657, for a total amount of \$43,602, or an average per claim of \$9.36. Ten years later there were 460 schools with 34,328 pupils enrolled. The number of claims had increased to 6,925, while the total amount had jumped to \$102,897 for an average of \$14.86 per claim . . . Prior to this past Big Eight tournament, 108 tournament games had been played between Big Eight Conference schools. Six of these games were between Kansas State and Kansas, with each holding three victories. Eliminating the six games among themselves, the two Kansas schools account for 38 victories as against only 10 losses. The winning percentages are as follows: Kansas .800; Kansas State .666; Oklahoma State .666; Missouri .531; Oklahoma .500; Iowa State .441; Colorado .280; and Nebraska 233. Surprisingly enough, Iowa State has played in the most games, 34 . . . Quote of the month - The Texas Study Commission on Health and Physical Education in a recent report said: "The competitive sports are definitely a part of the physical education program and these courses offer the same opportunity to physically superior students as advanced subjects in other areas serve the mentally gifted children."

N the twelve seasons since the conclusion of World War II, more points have been scored in Syracuse University basketball games than in the previous 35 seasons . . Teams used to cold climates need at least five days to become acclimated to warm weather, According to studies by Dr.

David Bass, working with the U.S. Army, a sudden exposure to heat not only brings on spring fever, but also places a strain on the circulatory system . . . There is a move underway to change the wrestling rules whereby more emphasis would be placed upon attack. This is to bring the rules more in line with those governing international competition. If approved, there would be less emphasis upon riding time, credit for defensive maneuvers or the length of time a wrestler must pin his opponent's shoulders to the mat . . . Thirteen schools have had three or more representatives in the Football Hall of Fame. Yale leads with 9, followed by Harvard with 7. Michigan and Minnesota each have 6. while there are 5 from Princeton. Notre Dame, Stanford, and Army have 4, while Cornell, Chicago, Alabama, and Southern California each have 3. Each one of the Ivy League schools is represented. The Southeast Conference is next in line with 9 of the 12 schools represented . . . Whoever said the linemen do the dirty work, and the halfbacks get the glory, knew what he was talking about. There are just as many halfbacks in the Hall of Fame as there are interior linemen. Of course, there are five players in the interior line for every two halfbacks. All in all, in checking over playing positions of the 117 selected so far, it is noted that 58 per cent were backs.

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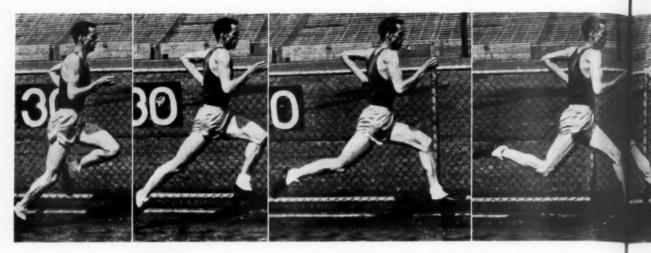
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for February, 1959





Dave Mills is 6 feet, 1 inch tall, and weighs 145 pounds. Illustration 6 shows the fine arm action that helps to carry him along in the 440. Dave's ability to run in a relaxed manner through almost all of a race has helped him. An effortless stride coordi-

nated with a fine arm carry is evident. Dave's stride was exactly 8 feet. He does have a tendency to bring his rear leg up a little too high and loses time getting it back to the ground for the next step. Illustration 7 shows a slight back lean that was very pronounced near the end of the 440 race. Illustrations 9 and 10 show excellent body lean which was very typical during most of the race.

## The 440 Record Holder

By CARL B. ANTEL
Track Coach, Lakewood, Ohio, High School

A TRACK coach does not meet many boys who have both the natural ability and the burning desire to become champions. Dave Mills, the national scholastic 440-yard record holder, was one of these unusual boys. He was born in Galt, Ontario and later moved to Sudbury where he spent most of his childhood, In 1953 he moved to Cleveland, Ohio and attended John Marshall for two years. During the summer of 1955 Dave moved to Lakewood and participated in our Junior Olympic program that

summer. We saw that he had the natural ability and the desire to excel in track. With this combination we knew Dave was destined for great things.

In the fall of 1955, he came out for cross-country and spent most of his time doing steady running. Dave did jogging over distances of a half mile to a mile and a half, but did not do any competitive running. We are sure competitive running would have done him a great deal of good, but at the time he was not forced to compete.

When we started indoor track, Dave

was worked into the relay teams. Ordinarily he would have been worked into the open events, but that year we had two boys who could defeat him in the short races. As the indoor season progressed, he was moved in with the 440-yard men, and in a short time was one of the best. Dave went on to win every 440 race the balance of the indoor season.

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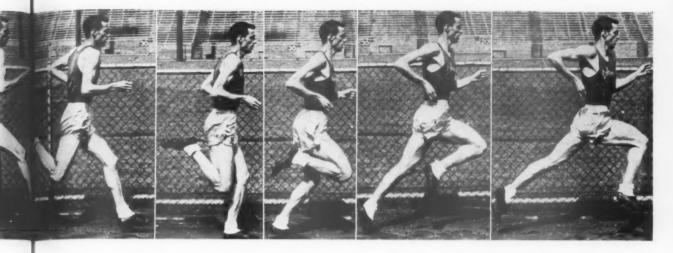
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As the outdoor season progressed, Dave kept on improving. His best time in the 100-yard dash was 10 flat, in the 220 – 22.3, and in the 440 –

Illustration 1 shows Dave ready for the start. In this picture his head is held a little higher than usual. It is usually at an angle directly down from his shoulders which would be about two inches lower than shown. We found that Dave had better success and was more relaxed when he used a foot spacing of 14 inches. Illustrations 2 and 3 show the initial effort in which pressure is placed on both feet, and the start of a strong movement of the left arm forward and the right arm to the rear. In Illustrations 4 and 5, the coordinated effort of both arms and legs starts Mills out with all the power he can exert. Dave worked many hours correcting a bad cross-arm action during the first two steps out of the blocks. These illustrations show that he is getting a maximum drive from his arms by thrusting them forward and slightly to the middle of his chest.







49.9. During his sophomore year he was defeated twice by the same boy, but in the state finals Dave came through as state champion.

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When Dave started his second year of track, many people were expecting great things. He started off strong during the indoor season. In his first big relay meet, he ran a 49-second anchor in the mile relay. This relay was run on a 12-lap track.

Outdoors Dave was also doing well with a 9.85 100, a 21.8 220, and a 49.6 440. Three weeks before the state meet he developed a tender leg and was not worked very hard in practice. Winding up the season with his leg well taped, Dave finished second in the 100 and 220, and again won the 440 in the state meet.

In his senior year, he again went out for cross-country and worked hard at it. He was not sold on the two-mile distance but did turn in some average times. This training helped him reach his goal.

Dave was eighteen years old when he started his senior year in track, and was able to take more work than some of the other boys on the team. His early indoor work was set to build up endurance in order to get him into top shape for the outdoor season. Our plan was to use him in the 880 during the indoor season and then drop him back to the 440 outdoors.

CARL ANTEL graduated from Miami University (Ohio) where he participated in football. For the past eight years he has been at Lakewood High School as head track coach and line coach in football. During that time his track teams have won five district championships, six city indoor championships, seven major relay championships, and have been runnersup in the state meet three times.

We start practice after Christmas vacation and have a three- to four-week preliminary training program. During this time the work was gradually built up until we felt Dave was ready for the racing distance. We have a 20-lap track, but treat it as a 22-lap

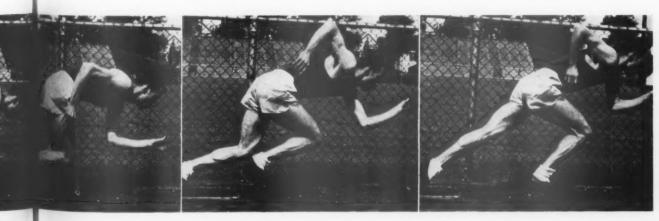
track. Following is a breakdown of Dave's first month's work:

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First Two Weeks—1. Warm up by jogging clockwise five laps, 400 yards. Ten minutes are devoted to exercise which consists of stretching, chins, push-ups, leg lifts, and rope skipping. 2. Pick-ups— these were done in groups of five boys. Each time a lap was finished the last man moved up to take the lead. The number of laps was increased as the training program went along. We start with five laps and repeat twice. The number of repetitions also increases as the training program progresses.

Second Two Weeks—1. Same warm-up as used previously. 2. Repeat the 400-yard laps. We used five laps for the repeat work. The boys started with three laps and had a two-minute rest after each lap. They worked up to four laps with a three-minute rest after each lap. Each lap was run in exactly 12 seconds. 3. After ten minutes rest, they jogged through an 880, using proper arm carry and keeping stride in mind.

The last week in February misfor-(Continued on page 59)



for February, 1959





Illustration 1 shows Henderson's tremendous upper body development and the manner in which he utilizes it. He is about to start a movement forward. Notice his concentration. His hands are pinched in a manner which keeps his whole body under control. In the illustrations, Henderson's style and that of Bud Edelen of Minnesota are compared. Illustration 2 shows Henderson has reached the pinnacle of his drive. He demonstrates complete control of his upper body. His ability to run with an upright stance comes from his chest development. He has lifted extremely heavy weights in proportion to his

## **Training for the Distances**

By SENON A. CASTILLO
Track Coach, Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona

WE firmly believe that track coaches are able to learn more from the men they coach than they can from all the books they read. In our three years of working with Alex Henderson, we have learned a great deal about distance running.

Too many of our athletes look upon distance running as a meager and dreary section of track and field, but it should be pointed out how distance men have advanced in times from one mile to 26 miles in comparison with sprint times. Some might argue that there is more scope for faster times in the distances than in the sprints; however, this statement is not true.

Most sprinters are naturally speedy. Many of them see no reason why they should train for faster times. They lack the drive to experiment as does the successful distance man. Sprinters are conformists. They go on doing what has been done for generations; whereas the successful distance man looks for better ways in which to bring about faster times.

There have been many storics about self-made athletes, some with little or no natural ability who have attained great heights in distance running through an intelligent program of training. It is true that there is no substitute for hard work regardless of man's desire, whether it be in academic subjects or in athletics. As is true in all things, some individuals are gifted with natural ability.

Many athletes who feel they lack natural ability avoid distance running. No man who has made his mark among his fellows in athletics need fear that he will ever regret the work and striving as time wasted. If he has really put forth the proper effort, worked in the heat and in the cold, year in and year out, he will find he has acquired something very precious, and difficult to attain, and that is character.

Training for distance running can be one of the most enjoyable phases of track and field. Many athletes feel that training is long, arduous, and a waste of time.

Training for distance running
(Continued on page 60)

Illustrations show Alex Henderson setting a new record of 8:51.3 in the two mile at the 1958 Drake Relays.

Illustration 3 shows Henderson demonstrating the float or semi-completion of the drive. His hands are still pinched and have complete control of his body. His arms are carried at about waist height. They swing forward and across his body, but travel no further than midway.

Illustration 4 shows that at the completion of the stride Henderson's carriage still keeps him in control of his whole body. Henderson who is 5 feet, 9½ inches is about the same height as Bud Edelen. At the completion of his stride he has maintained the same height as Edelen who is at the top of the stride.

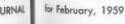


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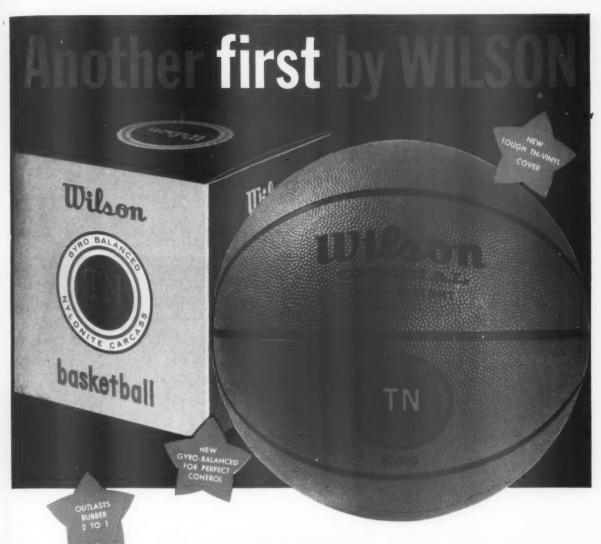
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## The Discus Analyzed

By DON CANHAM

Track Coach, University of Michigan

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THROWING the discus was popular in ancient Greece. Homer and others have written of ancient Greek heroes who scaled the stone unbelievable distances, actually less than 100 feet. We may conclude that the first discus was a smooth slab of stone, and possibly was used in unorganized competition as far back as the Stone Age. At the Louvre Museum in Paris there are several stones which were used in ancient Greece, and although round, they bear little resemblance to our present implements. Not only are they larger in diameter, but they have flat edges rather than the taper that marks our present discus, From pictures and statues such as Myron's Discobolus we know that the ancient Greek civilization was the first to glorify this fine event. In ancient times discus throwing was conducted from a small platform rather than from the ground. The discus throw has progressed and changed drastically, and present champions have so refined the art that the famous ancient heroes would scarcely recognize the event.

When the modern Olympic Games were revived in 1896, the discus event was on the competitive program. In those games not only was the throwing platform used, but the discus itself was also a challenge to foreign competitors. In fact, the eventual winner, Robert Garrett of Princeton University, borrowed a Greek implement because it was lighter and smaller than the one he had fashioned in America. Americans have tended to dominate the event ever since. Due to Garrett's Olympic victory and the interest created, the discus was added to our AAU track program the following year, and its weight and size were standardized. In 1897 the small 7-foot circle was established and C. H. Henneman of the Chicago Athletic Association became our first champion and record holder with a throw of 118 feet, 9

The man who made the first real contribution to both distance and style was the giant, Martin J. Sheridan of New York, who set seven world marks from 1901 to 1911. Sheridan's best

throw was 141 feet, 4 \[ \frac{4}{8} \] inches set from the 7-foot circle. The next world record holder, J. H. Duncan of the United States, had the distinction of breaking Sheridan's mark from the 7-foot circle in 1912 with a mighty heave of 145 feet, 9 \[ \frac{1}{2} \] inches, and then broke his own record the same year when the circle was enlarged to the present 8 feet, 2 \[ \frac{1}{2} \] inches. Duncan was the positive proof of the importance of turn when he astounded the track world with the excellent throw of 156 feet, 1 \[ \frac{1}{8} \] inches.

Several fine throwers approached 160 feet during the next twelve years, but war and world disorder prevented a real onslaught on the magic mark. In 1924, as a student at Notre Dame University, Tom Lieb finally broke Duncan's world mark, but Eric C. W. Krenz, the first of a long line of great Stanford University weight men, was the first discus thrower who exceeded 160 feet, Krenz not only exceeded 161 feet, but posted a world mark of 163 feet, 8 34 inches.

Another American, Paul Jessup of

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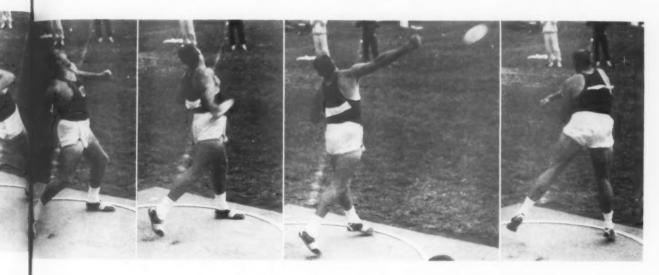
the University of Washington, approached 170 feet a year later when he posted 169 feet, 8 % inches. It was not until five years later, in 1935, that Harold Anderson of Sweden turned the trick, and in 1936 Ken Carpenter of Southern California became America's first man to throw over 170 feet when he won the Olympic Games at 173 feet, 113/16 inches. Anderson's mark of 173 feet, 113/8 inches, made in 1936, was broken months later by Willi Schroeder of Germany who threw 174 feet, 2½ inches.

Six years later the giant negro, Archie Harris of Indiana University, threw 174 feet, 8 \(^3\)/4 inches, and five years later, in 1941, Robert Fitch of

throw of 190 feet, 7/8 inches. However, his record was to be broken before it was officially approved. We were traveling on a train in Sweden with Iness when he learned that Gordien had broken the mark two months after he had set it. Sim Iness was a disappointed young man when he realized Gordien's throw was a remarkable 194 feet, 6 inches, and vowed some day to throw 200 feet. Had not injury ended Iness' career the following year, he might well have been the world's first 200 foot discus thrower, because most coaches agree that he had everything necessary for even greater perform-

Al Oerter and Rink Babka were the

a competitive event, there have been many different styles and forms used. In each style, whether knowingly or not, the coaches and athletes were constantly searching for more efficient methods of giving the discus greater centrifugal force while getting the athlete's body into position where he could apply maximum strength and body momentum to its flight. When the turn was introduced into discus throwing, the chance of carrying greater body momentum to a powerful throwing position, where the thrower could put more force upon the discus, improved greatly. However, with this greater potential, the more complicated technique pre-



the University of Minnesota became the world's first 180 foot discus thrower with a throw of 180 feet, 2 3/4 inches. In 1948 the remarkable Adolph Consolini of Italy surpassed Fitch with a throw of 181 feet, 6 3/8 inches to establish a world mark for the second time. Consolini had surpassed Harris' record in 1941 with a throw of 175 feet at Milan, and twelve years later, in 1955, at the age of 39 threw 186 feet, Il 1/2 inches. This great athlete also competed in the 1956 Olympic Games while still reigning as European champion at the age of 40. Consolini's world mark was to last just a year, as another former University of Minnesota athlete, Fortune Gordien, threw 185 feet, 2 3/4 inches at Lisbon, Portugal, and then surpassed that throw with a 186 feet, 10 1/8 inches at Hameenlinna, Finland the same year.

Sim Innes, the 1952 Olympic champion, became the first human to reach 190 feet with the discus. On his final throw at the National Collegiate Championships in 1953 at Lincoln, Nebraska, Sim made history with a

first discus throwers to reach 200 feet. Since Fitch, Consolini, Iness, Gordien, Oerter, and Babka showed the way, the once ultimate of 180 feet has become commonplace in major competition. Karl Merta of Czechoslovakia, Terene Kliis of Hungary, Otto Gregalka of Russia, and other Europeans plus a host of Americans have sailed the discus over that once magic mark on many occasions. Refinements in technique and more concentrated training methods have led to this sudden surge in the level of performance.

Editor's Note — Sequence photos of Rink Babka appear with this article. In the second part of the article to appear next month, there will be sequence photos of Al Oerter. Pictures of Sim Iness' actual record-breaking throw appeared in the February ,1954 issue. Sequence photos of Fortune Gordien and Bob Fitch appeared in the May, 1948 and May, 1947 issues.

#### Technique of Discus Throwing

Since discus throwing was started as

sented a multitude of problems.

In 60 years of competitive discus throwing experimentation, the world's finest throwers have arrived at two distinct and efficient methods of turning and delivering the discus, and it is on rare occasions that a top-flight discus thrower does not use a style based on one of these two forms. Occasionally, big strong men like Darrow Hooper of Texas A. & M., still become champions without using any turn at all. We can only wonder what these men could have done with an efficient turn.

The evolution of discus throwing has brought us through many stages. Following the era of throwing from a platform, discus men threw from a standing position, and then with a step and a half pivot to the right. When throwers began to turn in the circle, they started with one complete rotation then 1½, then 1½, and now the majority use very nearly 1¾ turns from the preliminary discus swing to the release. The evolution of the foot action has kept pace with this desire

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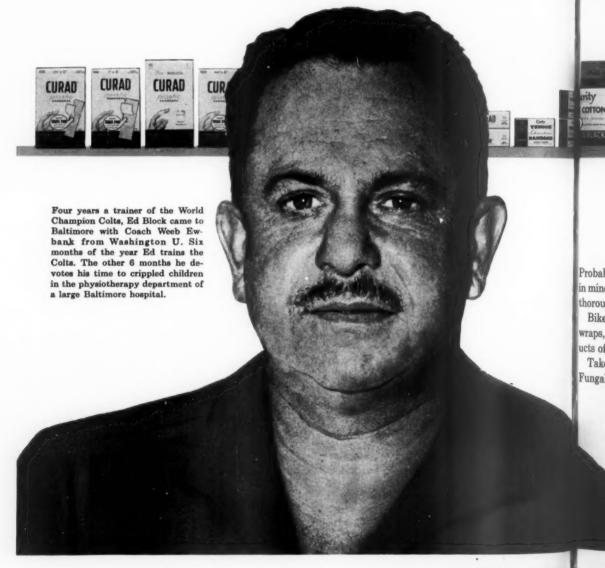
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to increase rotational velocity of the discus. With momentum and speed being recognized as key factors in successful throwing, it is not difficult to follow the whip of successive changes of lower body discus action. When turning started, the athlete made every effort possible to keep contact with the ground for stability in the new style. As he whirled across the circle, he actually stepped over his left foot instead of pivoting on it. Then he learned that a little more speed could be given to the turn by pivoting as he stepped around.

The pivot turn is generally credited

to Tom Lieb, although he may not have originated it. Often a world record breaker such as Lieb is credited with a revolutionary new form when actually he may only have called attention to it by his record performance. In any case Lieb did use a pivot turn when he set his world mark in 1924. This pivot by Lieb was accomplished by keeping one foot on the ground at all times. How deliberate and slow, by present standards, his turn was is revealed in an early account of discus throwing a year after he set his record.

"When the discus is back as far as

the waist and arm rotation will permit, and the muscles are all coiled somewhat, the rotation to the left begins. The pivot is made on the ball of the left foot then on the ball of the right . . . The first part of the revolution in the turn is done slowly . . . then when he (thrower) starts to pivot on the right foot and starts the second revolution his rotary speed is increased . . ."

The next innovation introduced into discus throwing was the incorporation of a hop with the pivot of the left foot. Eric Krenz of Stanford, Paul Jessup of Washington, and others called so much attention to this hop incorporation style that it became unversally popular.

The true pivot style (one foot always on the ground) is no longer used in competition, but is still employed by many coaches in instructing beginning throwers. However, the modified pivot style is still in evidence. Some fine throwers such as James Dillion of

DON CANHAM graduated from Michigan where he was NCAA high jump champion in 1940. Since becoming track coach at Michigan in 1948 his teams have enjoyed spectacular success. He has written three books on track and cross-country and edited the clinic notes for the International Track and Field Clinic. Canham has compiled film strips on many sports which he distributes through "Champions on Film."

Alabama Polytechnic Institute, 180 feet, 8 inches; and Consolini, 186 feet. 11 1/4 inches use much more pivot and less hop than the majority of present throwers. They certainly use less hop than Gordien and his disciples, so there is little doubt that the pivot style we know and use today is sound and practical.

When the hop was introduced, in became much easier and quicker for a discus thrower to get around his lef foot, and at this stage throwers begat to turn more toward the rear of the circle. It was obvious that with more turn, greater rotational velocity could be created, and thus more force could be exerted on the discus by the athlete. Present-day athletes generally use 1 3/4 turns with the pivot style prior to release. Many discus throwers are

(Continued on page 50)

<sup>1</sup>Lieb, Thomas J., "Discus Throwing," The Athletic Journal, May, 1925, Vol. 5. No. 5 p. 6.

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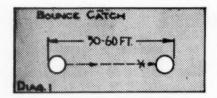
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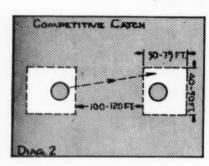
bodies behind it. When catching, the player's body is bent at both knees and at the waist. The ball should be caught either just as it leaves the ground, or at the height of its bounce, using a backhand if necessary. Players stand from 50 to 60 feet apart (Diagram 1).

# 

# SPEED CATCH 70-60FI Ding 7

# Playing Catch With a Purpose

By GLENN G. DAHLEM



THE simplest, most fundamental baseball drill, merely throwing a ball back and forth between two players, has been used for a long time as a warm-up procedure. However, playing catch can be adapted to a number of special practice situations. Each of these situations is designed to develop a particular game skill.

Bounce catch is a very enjoyable variation and, as a rule, helps to improve reaction time, and develop the ability to dig out low throws. The ball is thrown to bounce once, just in front of the receiver, who must handle it cleanly. Players should be coached to keep their eyes on the ball, and their

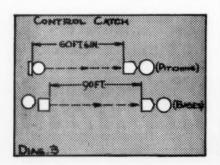
Competitive catch is just what the name implies, and can be relied upon to retain player interest. It involves throwing grounders and flies at an opponent, who is fielding a certain area, in an attempt to cause him to commit an error. Competitive catch will foster conditioning, and develop fielding proficiency in general. It will teach going left and right for grounders and up and back for flies. The players stand about 100 to 120 feet apart (Diagram 2).

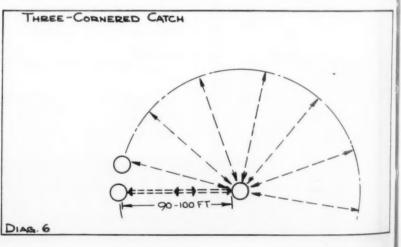
Control catch is designed to teach accuracy, and it can also be played competitively. This drill can be refined into a regular pitching situation by having a catcher call balls and strikes, walks and strike-outs. This version is popular with the younger set, and teaches wind-up, stretch, and all the trimmings of pitching a game without batters. A simpler version of control catch involves only throwing

and targeting, and is used to teach catchers and infielders to throw accurately to the bases. Distances normally used would be 60 feet for control pitching, and 90 feet for throwing to bases (Diagram 3).

Rhythmical catch is an exercise to use in developing form, particularly in the case of pitchers. It gives the players a chance to perfect their rhythm and balance, and to engage in self-analysis. The two players stand from 20 to 30 feet apart, and toss the ball to each other. Every movement, especially those of the player's legs, and all bodily weight shifts, are done at half speed. An effort is made to place the feet in the same position for every throw, and to standardize all movements. Each player advises his teammate whether he is achieving this goal or not.

(Concluded on page 4?)

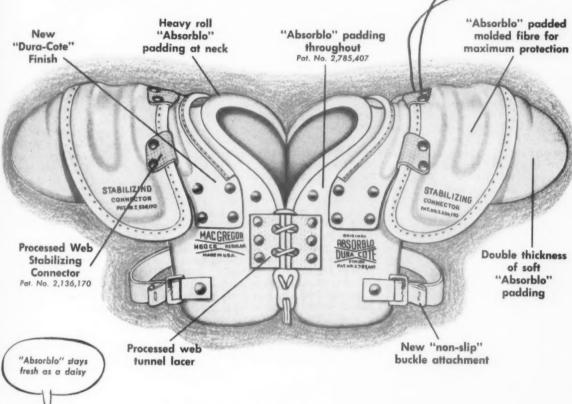




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Illustrations 1 and 2 show the use of the safety apparatus as the subject is performing the heel-raining exercise on a board two inches thick. The barbell is placed between the two vertical pipes preventing the subject from falling forward or backward with the weights. Holes were driven into the pipes at 24, 50, 60, and 70 inches. Steel pins are inserted into the holes to eliminate the possibility of the weights falling on the subject.

# Increase the Explosive Power of Your Athletes

By EDWARD S. STEITZ

Director of Athletics, Springfield College, Springfield, Massachusetts

THE use of weights to increase leg strength in athletes and in the vertical jumping of basketball players is a research project which is now in its third year at Springfield College.

The first reports of our program were outlined and presented as a part of the Research Committee report of the National Basketball Coaches Association at its last meeting. Since then we have been pleasantly surprised at the large number of college basketball coaches who have signified that they have adopted our procedures in the use of weights to increase leg strength and vertical jumping. We have received a similar number of letters and telephone calls from high school coaches requesting details of our program.

Weight training studies were carried on for the past three years as part of a master's degree requirement by Philip Ness, Charles Sharos, William Brown, and Douglas Riley under our chairmanship and with the cooperation of Dr. Emery W. Seymour, director of tests and measurements, and Dr. Clayton T. Shay, director of graduate studies.

The results of our studies which are based upon the overload and interval training principles showed that at the end of a five-week period those taking part in the weight training program had significantly increased their vertical jump and leg strength.

Brown and Riley found that the

weight training group showed an increase of 2.9 inches, while a controlled group showed an increase of .6 inches. The 2.9 increase showed a t of 87 which is significant beyond the Milevel of confidence. The leg lift in the weight training group showed a increase of 161 pounds, while a controlled group showed a decrease of 70.4 pounds.

Ness' and Sharos' results show that the weight training group in creased 3.23 inches and indicated at of 5.37 which showed significance at the .01 level of confidence. The mean of the weight training group increased 215.49 pounds with a t of 7.31 which is significant beyond the .01 level of confidence.

The following salient points represent a condensation of the procedure used in the Springfield College weightraining program for basketball platers. As will be noticed, the procedure are simple and not time-consuming

1. The candidates perform the weight training program three time (Continued on page 64)

Illustrations 3, 4, and 5 show the subject performing the deep knee bend exercise. Notice the bar which is padded with sponge rubber and covered with a towel in orde to distribute the subject's weight more evenly over his shoulder and provide more comfortillustration 6 shows the safety factor of eliminating the possibility of the weights falled on the subject in the event he has difficulty performing the deep knee bend exercise.







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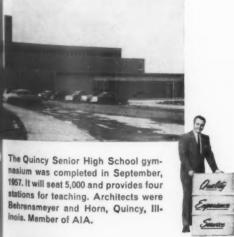
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JOURNA

### By ROBERT T. KRETCHMAR

Baseball Coach, Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio



HE more we coach, the more we become convinced that the high school or college team which shows daring on the base paths has a decided advantage over their more conservative or more orthodox opponents. The explanation is quite simple. The one skill of the game which young ball players possess that most resembles their professional counterparts is the ability to run. A number of high school and college baseball players can run as well, if not better, than some of the players in the major leagues. But how many high school and college players can throw or field as well? Since the basic ingredients which make up success or failure on the base paths include running, throwing, and fielding, we believe the advantage, generally speaking, is with the runner.

Operating on this basic philosophy, we believe it is desirable for both high school and college teams to have the following offensive maneuvers in their repertoire of strategy.

### The Steal

The difference between a successful and unsuccessful steal of second base is only a few feet or about a tenth of a second. In other words, the defensive margin for error is extremely thin. Involved defensively to thwart an enterprising base-runner are two good throws plus a catch and a tag. However, in a situation of this kind there can be many slips. How often have we seen a catcher who is unable to make a play at second because the pitcher's throw was low or poor? We know few high school or college catchers who can take a pitch ankle high and throw out a man at second. Then, too, if the pitcher's throw to the plate is in a good position for the catcher to handle, he still has the challenging task

of throwing the ball accurately to second or third as the case may be. How many young catchers have a rifle-like arm? However, assuming that the pitcher has thrown the ball well and the catcher has a powerful and accurate arm, then the task of the second baseman or shortstop taking the throw and making the tag remains. At this point many defensive plays break down, either out of fear of being spiked or lack of confidence in the catcher's arm. We have seen high school and college second basemen and shortstops move ahead of the bag (toward home) to take a good throw, only to have the base-runner slide safely out of their reach to the outfield side of second.

Having been a college catcher, we can think of other reasons for catchers not getting the ball to second accurately and in time on steal plays. It may be that the pitcher failed to hold the man to his base properly, the second baseman or shortstop was slow in getting to the bag or the weather was cold with the wind blowing in from center field, making throwing difficult. Perhaps in the light of all of this it is not surprising that our team has been successful in more than 90 per cent of its attempted steals over the past four seasons.

ROBERT KRETCHMAR graduated from Oberlin College in 1940 where he played three years of varsity baseball, basketball, and football. During the war he served as a lieutenant commander in the U. S. Coast Guard. He returned to Oberlin College five years ago, after receiving his doctor's degree from Columbia and teaching for five years at Ohio State University.

Then, too, we like the steal play because it puts pressure on the defense—sometimes just enough to make them blow a game. A few seasons ago our team lost a 2-1 game in which our pitcher threw a one-hitter while we were gathering seven hits. In the ninth inning one of the opposing players attempted to steal third. Our catcher threw the ball out into left field and with it the game. Things were evened up last season when we won a 1-0 game in a similar fashion.

It stands to reason that a defensive team which has to worry about men on the bases is taking some attention away from the hitter and thus weakening itself.

#### Hit and Run

Until several years ago we were of the opinion that this play was good for the professionals but not for younger players. It is a rather common belief among coaches that the hit and run is beyond the capabilities of most high school and collage players. However, when we heard a college coach explain that his team had stolen 20 bases the year before on hit and run plays which had misfired, we realized we had been wrong. This play is now an integral part of our offense and has been an asset to us. Again this is a play which places pressure on the defense. Catchers may start to call for pitch outs they can ill afford, pitchers may become jittery and hurry their throws. and the men around second may leave their positions too early to cover their territory properly. Actually the number of times our players have come through with hits on this play, let alone to right field, have been few. but in the process we have stolen a number of bases and have broken up many potential double plays.

(Continued on page 47)

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THE DRILL

HOW TO DRILL FOR FUMBLE PREVENTION

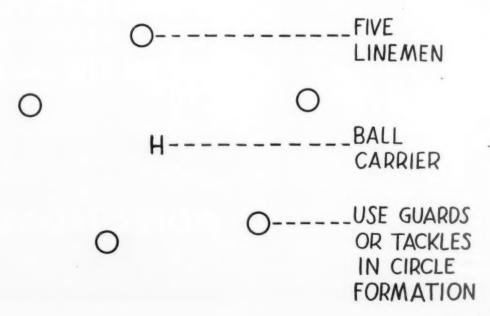
PURPOSE

This drill was designed to force the backfield men to carry the ball properly.

### INSTRUCTIONS

- 1. Have five linemen form a circle. Allow approximately two yards between each lineman.
  - 2. Place a back inside the circle with a football.
  - 3. The back must try to get out of the circle without losing the football.
  - 4. The linemen may grab arms, and the ball, but they do not tackle.

The backs should be told that tension on the ball should not be extremely forceful, but firm until the whistle blows.



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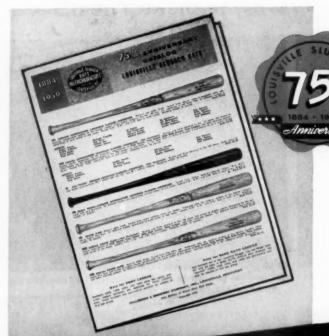
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Art Lowis, Head Coach, West Virginia University, says: "A coach is always shooting for perfection in performance. This improved J5-V shows me that Spalding has just about achieved it."

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Series A-THE STANCE

## The Play of the Catcher

By FRANK SANCET
Baseball Coach, University of Arizona

A catcher on a baseball team must pay attention to a number of small details which add up to the correct way of doing the job. It is these small details which, combined with a natural ability and good build, will make one player a better catcher than another. Many of the things he does in his position will depend on his own comfort. Professional players will say that the best way to play a position is the way it is the most comfortable for the individual player.

There are fundamentals, both minor and major, that must be learned. Variations of these fundamentals, which make it easier for a catcher to do the right thing in every game, add up to his particular style. He should learn the fundamentals first, and especially how they are important to the correct playing of the position. A catcher will

not develop style until he has gone out and worked at his position in many games. By that time style will come to him naturally.

Contrary to most beliefs, size itself is not too important in the selection of a catcher. There are good big catchers and good small ones. However, stamina and agility are necessary.

In selecting a catcher, the coach should look for these qualities: sturdiness in build, agility afoot, quick hands, and a strong, accurate throwing arm. Also of utmost importance are courage, mental alertness, and qualities of leadership.

#### Stance

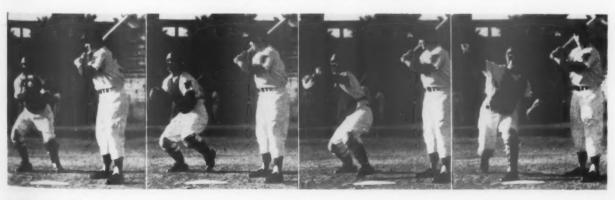
Squatting behind the plate is

thought of, and must be executed in terms of convenience for the pitcher and the catcher. It is important that he get down directly in line with the plate, because many pitchers will use points of a catcher's body as targets. If he is squatting squarely in line with the plate, a catcher's shoulders are almost a perfect indication of an inside pitch, while his knees show the outside corners.

The catcher's position should be as close as possible to the batter, without interfering with him. In this position, he is able to present a better target to the pitcher and being close to the plate, he can handle low pitches and foul tips better.

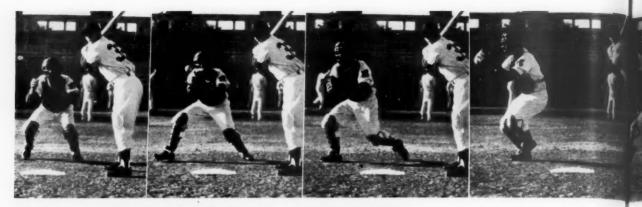
While giving signals to the pitcher (Illustration A1), the catcher should

## Series B-THE THROW TO SECOND

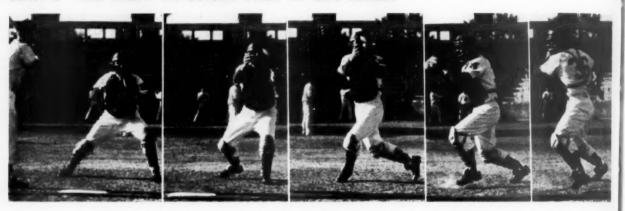


for February, 1959

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Series C—THE THROW ON OUTSIDE PITCH TO RIGHT-HANDER Series D—THE THROW ON OUTSIDE PITCH TO LEFT-HANDER



be in a squat position — feet comfortably apart, knees turned out slightly, and left forearm resting on his thigh. His gloved hand extends beyond his left knee. The throwing hand gives the signal in the crotch or inside the leg.

As soon as the signal for the pitch is given, the catcher should raise up a little from the squat position (Illustrations A2, A3, and A4), and take a comfortable stance with his feet well apart, and his right foot slightly behind his left. His throwing hand should be relaxed and the fingers closed loosely with the thumb along his index finger.

He should not change the position of his hands until after the pitcher has started his delivery. If the pitch is below the waist, his glove hand should be held out with the palm toward the pitcher, fingers pointing down. These balls must be caught with an upward motion. If the pitch is above the waist, the fingers of the catcher's hand should point upward. Balls above the waist should be caught with a downward motion. sil

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#### Throwing

In throwing, a catcher should use a

## Series E—PLAYING THE DOUBLE STEAL





snap overhand throw whenever possible. This type of throw gets the ball away faster. When throwing to second base on balls directly in front of the catcher (Illustration B1), the ball and glove should be carried quickly to the right ear. As the catcher's right hand swings over to hold the ball, his fingers automatically encircle it in the proper throwing position (Illustra-tions B2 and B3). At the same time the ball is being carried to position, the catcher's left foot is stepped forward in a direct line with second base. His right foot is behind because it is his pivot foot on a throw and, therefore, puts him in a position to stand up immediately and throw in any direction (Illustration B4).

Throwing presents special problems to a catcher because he usually has a batter in front of him to obstruct his throw. To get around the batter, there are certain fundamental movements in a catcher's footwork.

If the catcher has a right-handed batter at the plate and the pitch is outside, to his right, the footwork for the throw is as follows: from the catching position, step to the right with the right foot (Illustrations Cl and C2), to catch the ball. This takes him clear of the batter. From this position, he takes one step forward with his left foot and throws (Illustrations C3, C4, C5, C6,

C7 and C8). In this manner, the least amount of time is wasted in getting the throw away.

For a throw to second or first, from an outside pitch to a left-handed batter, the step is made first with the left foot (Illustration D1). The ball is centered (Illustration D2). Then the catcher's right foot is placed behind his left foot (Illustration D3), and the left step is taken as the throw is started (Illustrations D4 and D5). The automatic carrying of the ball and the glove to the right ear helps in getting the ball away with a minimum of time and effort.

One of the most difficult throwing plays for a catcher is the double steal situation with runners on first and third. With a double steal in the offing, a catcher can often make the runner on third look bad by bluffing a throw to second and throwing to third. Ordinarily, the ball should be thrown to second. This fundamental should be executed with the same technique that is used in any other throwing situation. First, the catcher should center the ball by stepping in that direction with the foot on that side (Illustration E1), followed by the proper carrying of the ball to shoulder position. This maneuver is combined with looking at the runner at third (Illustration E2), as the throw is made

(Illustrations E3, E4, E5, and E6). Proper balance should be maintained at all times because the secret of good throwing is balance.

### Fielding Bunts

The catcher is required to field many bunts and balls which are topped and roll slowly a short distance from the plate. An alert catcher is quick to break from the plate on bunts. Removal of the mask and starting into the infield come simultaneously, because splitseconds determine the method of both fielding and throwing the ball. A ball to either side of the pitching mound should be fielded with the catcher's body to the third base side of the ball, regardless of where the throw is to be made. In many instances, lack of the necessary speed and accuracy in throwing will cause poor execution of the play. The proper technique, and one that will insure no pushing or squirting of the ball is as follows:

On a ball to the first base side of the mound, the catcher should move out quickly to the ball (Illustrations F1 and F2). Good throwing is based on good balance. Accuracy and speed of the thrown ball are dependent on how quickly the proper balance is established, plus the speed of releasing the ball. As the catcher nears the ball, he should move his body to the third base side (Illustration F3), but he must come directly over the ball (reaching for it causes poor balance and poor throwing). The glove hand should be placed in front of the ball to stop the roll (Illustration F3), and then the ball is scooped into the mitt. At this point, he should bring his hands and the ball to his waist (Illustration F4), from which position an accurate snap throw can be made (Illustrations F5, F6, F7, and F8). The reason for pushing, or for the ball squirting comes from not being directly over the ball and reaching for the ball out in front, making it necessary



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## Series F—FIELDING BUNT ON FIRST BASE SIDE

to grab it with one hand. The ball is thrown too quickly from an unbalanced position, thus causing the pushing or squirting.

A ball down the third baseline will be fielded in the same manner. Here again, as the catcher approaches the ball (Illustration G2), he maneuvers his body to the third base side and into a throwing position. The mitt is











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used again to stop the ball and the catcher's bare hand is used to scoop the ball as shown in Illustration G3. As soon as the ball is fielded, the catcher's weight is transferred to his right foot (Illustration G4). Then the throw is executed underhand, sidearm or overhand (Illustrations G5, G6, G7, and G8).

### Tag At the Plate

Probably the most rugged play a catcher is called upon to make is to tag a man at the plate. Runs count in baseball, and if a runner is coming into the plate with a chance to score, he is not going to let anyone or anything stand in his way. A catcher has

to be built powerfully to take the full force of a runner's body crashing into him as he attempts to guard the plate, tag the runner, and keep the ball from bounding out of his hands from the impact when he and the slider meet.

Because of the ruggedness of the play, we like to have our catchers play the tag a certain way. On tag plays







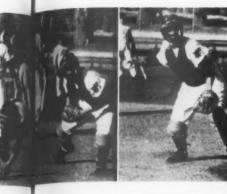




















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with the ball coming from either the infield or outfield, the catcher squares off facing the thrower. He does not block the plate completely but shows the runner a part of it.

On throws from the left or third base side of the diamond, we like to have our catcher take a position facing the thrower with his left foot on the

front left corner of the plate (Illustrations H1 and H2), exposing about one-third of the back side of the home plate. Our theory is that if a catcher shows a runner even a small part of the plate, he will slide for it. Thus the catcher knows exactly where the slider will be, and in most instances he will be sliding rather than trying to run

## Series G—FIELDING BUNT ON THIRD BASE SIDE

over the catcher. Upon receiving the ball (Illustrations H3 and H4), the catcher drops down to his right knee (using his left leg and shin guard to block the plate), and puts the mitt which is holding the ball down in front of the runner (Illustration H5). The runner can do nothing but slide into the ball (Illustrations H6, H7, and H8). The catcher should be careful to make the runner slide into the back of the mitt, to avoid having the ball knocked out of his hands and to protect his hands.

If the throw comes from the right side of the diamond (first base side), the catcher will place his right foot on the left corner of the plate on the third baseline side (Illustration 11), showing about one-third of the inside of the plate. The play is then the same as for any infielder. As he receives the ball (Illustration 12), he drops to his right knee (Illustration 13), and forces the runner to slide into the back of



Series I—TAG ON THROW FROM RIGHT SIDE OF DIAMOND













for February, 1959





## Series J (Left)—CATCHING FOUL POP FLY

his mitt (Illustrations I4, I5, and I6). The straight-up left leg will stop a runner's slide should he slide straight in, thus giving the catcher added protection.

The proper method of tagging a runner is to hold the ball with the bare hand within the pocket of the glove, and the actual tag is made with the back of the mitt. Tagging with the bare hand is not recommended, as the runner's spikes may cut the catcher's hand.

### Fielding Fly Balls

One of the most important responsibilities of the catcher is to catch fly balls near the plate.

The most important thing to remember about foul flies is that under normal conditions they drift back toward the infield.

The first thing a catcher must do on pop flies is to discard his mask in the direction opposite to which he is going. This action prevents him from stepping on the mask and possibly missing the catch. Ordinarily, he knows in what direction the ball is hit by seeing its flight from the bat. The fact that a right-handed hitter usually raises the ball to the right and a left-handed hitter raises it to the

left is an aid in making the proper start for the ball. If the catcher has a good distance

to run, he immediately slaps the mask off with his thumb (Illustration J1), and runs to catch the ball (Illustration J2). The direction of the wind, the sun, and nearness to the stands are also important factors in catching pop flies. The catcher should keep

these in mind. Also, he should know (Concluded on page 63)

## Series K (Left)—CATCHING POP FLY





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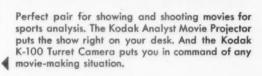
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# **Training Program** for a Champion High School **High Hurdler**

By BOB STOUT Track Coach, Theodore Roosevelt High School, Fresno, California

KEN PRETZER of Roosevelt High School in Fresno, California ran the 120-yard high hurdles in 14 seconds flat on April 25, 1958 at Ratcliffe Stadium, site of the West Coast Relays, to win the Fresno City high hurdle championship. Coach J. Flint Hanner of Fresno State College acted as meteorologist for the meet. No aiding wind was recorded at the time of the race. The time was one-tenth of a second slower than George Hearn's year-old record of 13.9 seconds. The following week Ken ran 14.1 seconds to win the North Yosemite League high hurdle championship on the same track.

Ken's training program resulted in a high degree of perfection in high hurdling. A rigorous training program will make necessary a prolonged series of activities both physical and mental, aiming for excellence of performance in a specific skill; or it is the sum total of purposeful and directed effort toward an athletic achievement.

Since a training program involves a prolonged period of time and the mental as well as the physical characteristics of a boy, it is wise to give careful thought when selecting likely hurdle candidates. An adage worth consideration is: The boy made a good coach of me. In selecting a beginning hurdler, the following are, in our opinion, important and necessary characteristics of a potential champion:

1. Does he like to hurdle? This quality is of primary importance. It is impossible to develop a high degree of perfection in hurdling without deriving satisfaction when performing the event. Physical attributes necessarv to be a good hurdler are of little value if the boy does not enjoy the

fully in one season. In order to achieve excellence in hurdling, persistent practice over a long period of time is required. Many discouraging performances are likely along the way. An athlete must be especially diligent to achieve excellence.

3. Is he a willing worker? Many obstacles, physical and mental, may be overcome if a boy is willing to practice diligently. In many instances, this practice may be beyond the requirements of the coach. Coaching suggestions can be made by the dozen to a beginning hurdler, but suggestions should be aimed toward basic faults in fundamentals. Constant work by the beginner on fundamental weaknesses will accomplish the job most consistently.

4. Is he well-coordinated? Observing a boy for grace and ease of motion is of value in selecting a hurdle prospect. If a boy falls over his feet, so to speak, he is not likely to develop into a successful hurdler. Usually an aggresssive basketball forward is a suitable candidate. If this boy can become interested, a coach may have a natural. A boy who is a basketball player will usually have good height and many actions used in basketball carry-over. The stop and go action, quick turns, jumping, and the development of peripheral vision which are used in basketball are all helpful in hurdling.

5. Does he have character? A boy is an investment which is made by the coach. The investment is in time and effort. Each hurdler has individual differences. A coach must study these traits and if necessary make changes, improvise or occasionally

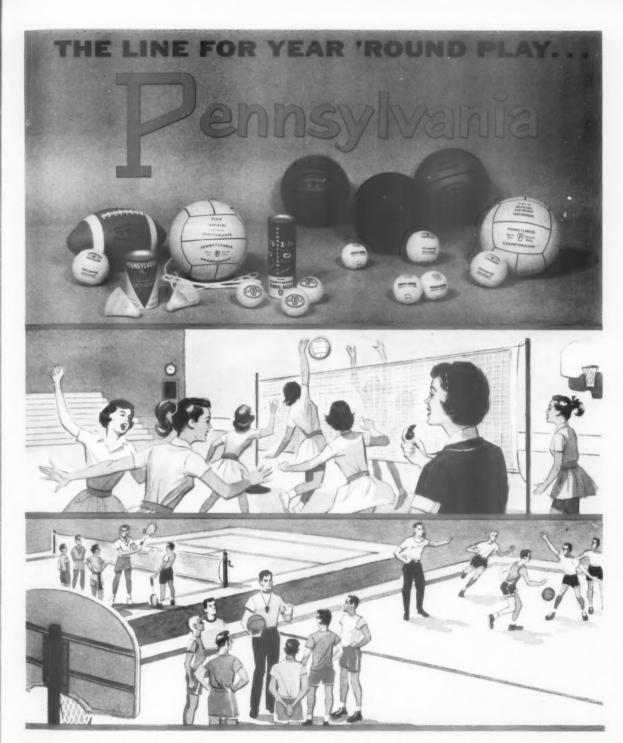
capitalize on these individual differ-2. Is he persistent? Persistence is a • ences. In order to make proper decimust. Hurdlers are not developed (sions, the coach must understand the physical limitations of the boy as well as his mental attitudes. To know these limitations and attitudes a great deal of thought and observation are necessary on the part of the coach. He should look for a dependable boy who has high aspirations. A coach will be wise to invest in sound stock.

Ken had each of the characteristics mentioned. He had a natural hurdler's physique. He was big and strong - 6 feet, 2 inches, and weighed 170 pounds at graduation. Ken was quite a rational individual and had a mature attitude even as a sophomore. Ken had only average speed but possessed an abundance of courage and determination: he was a willing and diligent worker. Ken was also versatile and well-coordinated: he was an outstanding end and halfback on the football team and a member of the basketball squad. All of these factors were an aid in coaching Ken and they were pertinent to the success he achieved.

To give a detailed description of the training program used by Ken would possibly be of little value in coaching another boy. However, it may be beneficial to study the progress he made as a high school hurdler.

Ken began running the high hurdles as a sophomore. Most of his races during the year were at the 70-yard distance. This race consists of five hurdles placed 10 yards apart. The distance to the first hurdle is 15 yards and the distance to the tape after the last hurdle is 15 yards. Ken's best time for the 70-yard race was 9 seconds flat. The following year, his

(Concluded on page 37)



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## FOR YOUR BULLETIN BOARD

## CATCHING THE BASEBALL

### FLY BALL OVERHAND

Demonstrated by GORDON LUND Captions by JIM SMILGOFF, Taft H.S., Chicago

When catching a high fly ball overhand fashion with the thumbs of both hands close together, the receiver should keep his feet apart and his left foot forward to give good body balance and ease of movement in changing direction rapidly. This body position also cuts down on elapsed time in making a throw, since the forward movement of the left foot on the catch is the first leg movement on the throw. Notice that the receiver's arms are well extended overhead, and his eyes are following the ball all the way into the glove. The receiver's arms should bend slightly at the elbows in order to cushion the ball as it nestles into the glove. He should catch the ball toward the central portion of his body.

### FLY BALL UNDERHAND

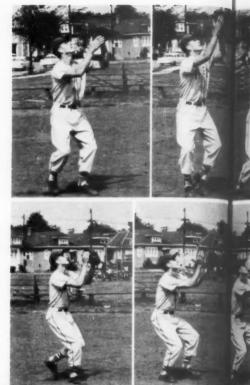
In making the high fly catch underhand fashion, a right-handed thrower places his left foot forward for balanced body position, and for smooth, easy flow into throwing position. Both hands are turned palms upward, with the little fingers close together. As the ball settles into the glove, the receiver's bare hand covers it to insure the catch, and also to grip the ball in case of a necessary throw. Notice the extended arms are held fairly high as the ball nestles into the glove which is held at chest or shoulder height. The right leg swings around behind the left one immediately after the catch in order to place the body in throwing position. Holding the arms in a relaxed position, with the hands fairly loose, should insure grace and rhythmic body action in making the catch.

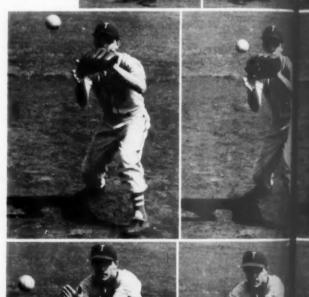
### THROWN BALL ABOVE THE WAIST

In receiving a thrown ball, the receiver should give the thrower a target at which to throw by placing his glove chest high. The receiver's body position is a slightly crouched one, with the right foot back ready to spring in any direction should the throw so demand. The receiver's arms are well extended, but they recoil slightly as the ball settles into the glove. This cushions the ball for a soft, graceful catch. The receiver bends forward slightly at the waist in order to meet the shock of the oncoming ball. His body weight is over the balls of both feet as the thrown ball approaches. His bare hand closes over the ball as soon as it nestles into the glove in order to secure the catch, and a fast grip for a subsequent throw. Notice his eyes are following the ball all the way into the glove. His elbows are out away from the fielder's body which allows for free and easy arm movement.

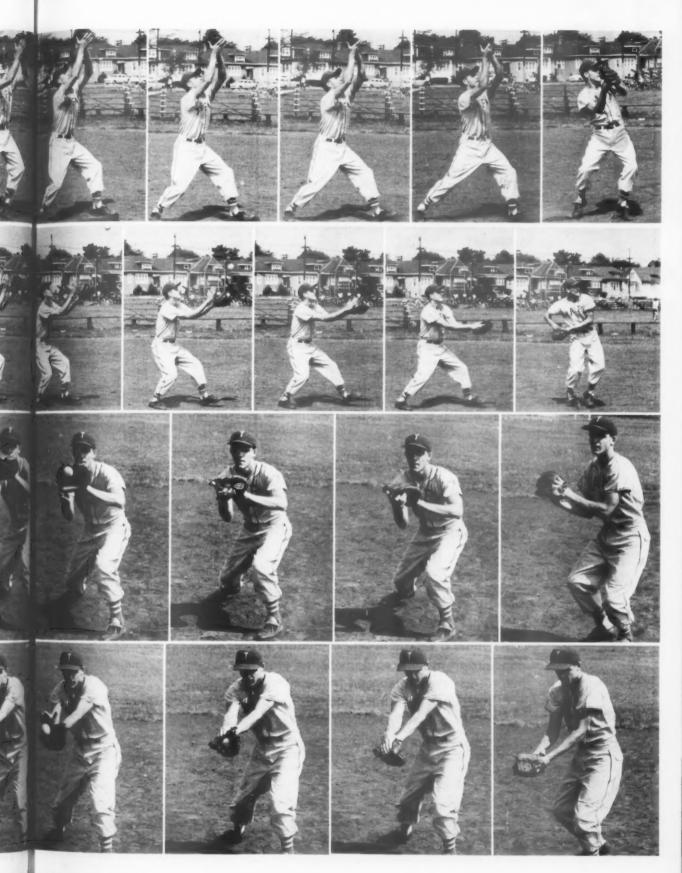
### THROWN BALL BELOW THE WAIST

In receiving a thrown ball waist high or below the waist, it is best to place the glove palm up for the catch. Bend the glove hand wrist downward as the ball approaches, thus exposing more pocket surface toward the ball. The bare hand is held above the glove ready to close over the ball as it settles into the pocket. The receiver's eyes follow the ball all the way into the glove. His arms are extended well forward and his hands are relaxed. Tense hands due to taut muscles create a hard pocket into which a ball cannot settle safely and easily. The receiver bends slightly forward at the waist. His body weight is on the balls of both feet ready to change position at the slightest misdirection of the throw. The knees are well bent, and his legs are relaxed.









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LETIC NAL FEATURE

## FOR YOUR BULLETIN BOARD

This insert, as is true of the preceding inserts of the series, was designed to spark interest in your program. They may be removed from the Journal without damaging either the insert or the magazine. In order to remove the insert, lift the staples on the preceding page, and then fold the staples back. Additional copies of most of the previous inserts are available free. Please order by number.

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  - 5. Shooting in Basketball

    - 6. Volleyball7. Relay Racing
      - 8. Kicking the Football
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              - 12. Tennis
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                  - 14. Blocking in Football
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Basketball



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Tennis Balls

PTC-6 Tetherholl









(Continued from page 32)

junior year, he ran the full 120-yard high hurdle race. He won his first race in 15.9 seconds. During the season Ken's time varied, his slowest time being 16.3 seconds, then steadily improving to a good 14.8 seconds. It stayed at 14.8 seconds until late in the eason. After laying off for about ten days, he ran 14.4 seconds in winning a junior Olympic race.

After Ken began to run consistently near the 15-second mark, emphasis on the times made by other outstanding high school hurdlers may have aided in bringing him to the 14-second mark. It is interesting to note that only 12 high school high hurdlers have run 14 seconds or better. Three of these boys ran 14 seconds flat in 1958.

A charge without hesitating to the first hurdle is vital to good time. We tried to encourage Ken to feel contempt toward the first hurdle. This hurdle was a barrier which had to be battled. The first hurdle was the only hurdle in which we emphasized the approach. Our concern with the other nine hurdles was in having Ken come off each hurdle with maximum speed.

The snap-down of the lead leg was of particular trouble to Ken during his junior year. He was greatly improved in his senior year. Ken used a stiff-leg action with his lead leg. The knee acted as a fulcrum, Rapid swinging of his lower leg to a stiff locking position at the knee resulted in an improved snap-down. This movement would be similar to slamming a door only to have it bounce back with equal force when the latch did not catch. This technique could cause an interruption in the continuous action desired of the lead leg or it could cause movement beyond the horizontal position desired. We feel this technique worked with Ken because of the size and strength of his thighs. It could be called an individual difference.

The last point of emphasis we will mention is rhythm. In order to acquire the desired hurdle rhythm, an athlete needs balance and smoothness. Ken was often referred to as a smoothstriding hurdler. In our experience, most good hurdlers fit this description. Their smoothness is the result of rhythm. Rhythm enabled Ken to surge over the last four hurdles. It was necessary to caution him not to force, but increase the rhythm steadily. Too much change will cause the loss of rhythm and inevitably mistakes will result. Good hurdlers seldom make mistakes because they are aware of hurdle rhythm and use it to achieve consistent performances.



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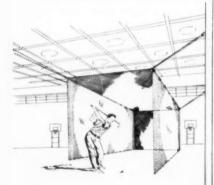
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Director of Intramurals Lima, Ohio, High School

# **Lima's Intramural Program**

By DR. DAVID O. MATTHEWS

Intramural Sports Director, Bowling Green University, Bowling Green, Ohio

L MA Senior High School is a threeyear school consisting of grades ten, eleven, and twelve. Its intramural program is said to have been in continuous operation for 33 years, growing from one which included only three sports to its present list of 20. The greatest development has taken place under the leadership of its present director, Ronald Dotson.

The statement of philosophy which appears at the beginning of the article along with a list of objectives is available to the students through a handbook published by the intramural department.

#### Organization and Administration

The director is assisted by two committees — the administrative council and the student intramural committee. There is also a student director and team managers according to the need. As is usually the case with this type of organization, the final responsibility for administration and the development of policies and procedures rests upon the director. His responsibilities are identified in the constitution as follows:

1. He shall be directly responsible for the proper conduct of the program and shall determine the policies to be pursued in attaining that end.

2. He shall be responsible for organizing the program, handling all details relative to supplies and purchases of equipment, the upkeep of facilities, and making up schedules and notices.

3. He shall be responsible for the efficient handling of all games in the respective sports. His duties shall include the planning and care of the playing areas, assigning the officials, directing the intramural sports managers, handling of the publicity promotion work, and the tabulation of all permanent records.

The director spends a minimum of 12 hours a week, from September to March, in the performance of duties related to the intramural program. He receives extra compensation for this work. Approximately four hours are spent in planning, six in supervising games, and two in overseeing and training the managers. More time could be used effectively but the responsibilities of coaching and teaching do not permit additional time.

The administrative council consists of the following members: the principal, boys' intramural director, boys' physical education director, class presidents, student intramural director, two student council representatives, and a physical education teacher.

According to the constitution, the specific duties of the council are to handle amendments, settle protests, and make special rulings. It is within the power of the council to overrule the director in situations involving the eligibility of players, settlement of a controversy, and the presentation of awards. In such instances, at least a two-thirds vote of the entire membership is required.

However, in actual practice the administrative council is chiefly an advisory group which has little to do with the details of administration. Its jurisdiction lies in the broad areas of guidance, legislation, and planning. In general, the council merely approves, rejects or amends what the director proposes. Discussion is usually limited, and the principal is the only member who confers with the director when evaluation or revision is needed. The administrative council holds meetings at the beginning of each intramural season and whenever necessary at other times.

The student intramural committee consists of 20 to 25 boys, referred to in the constitution as intramural man-

(Continued on page 46)

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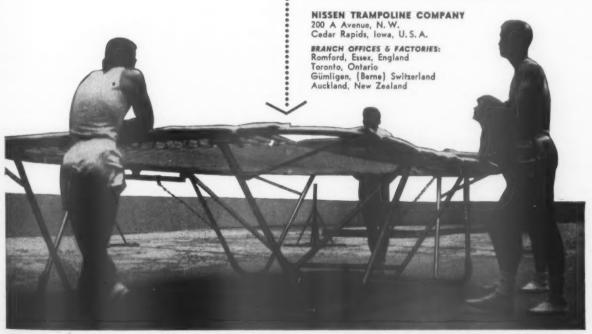
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# Hitters and Place Hitting

By PHILIP L. PHILIP
Millbury, Massachusetts, Public Schools

HITTERS can be classified as follows: the pull hitter, the straightaway hitter, and the slice or late hitter.

In baseball, the pull hitter is always the power or home run hitter on the team. A right-handed hitter's power field would be left field, and for a left-handed hitter it would be just the opposite. This is true in the majority of the cases. Occasionally, an outstanding batter like Bob Elliot, former Boston Braves star, found that his best power was to right center field. However, Bob hit many home runs into his normal power field which was left field.

A pull hitter attempts to hit every pitch before the ball reaches the plate. In this manner, assuming the batter is right-handed, the bat faces the left field area, and that is where the batter wishes to hit the ball. The greatest pull hitters, like Joe DiMaggio, had so much power that they could overcome fast balls on the outside (balls which are normally hit into right field by the straightaway and slice hitters) and pull them into left field. However, the majority of the pull hitters do not have this exceptional strength, so they hit the ball either into center or right field. A pull hitter is so called because he hits the majority of balls into his power field, and not because he hits all of them in that

A straightaway hitter is almost always the most consistent hitter on the team. No type of pitch gives him trouble, because he merely hits the pitch where it is pitched. A righthanded straightaway hitter like Rogers Hornsby would pull all inside pitches, merely by hitting the ball before it reached the plate. Any ball that is hit in front of the plate, and in which the batter does break his wrists.

will almost always go into the pull field. Remember that the level of the bat is facing left field.

Hornsby would low bridge any pitcher who pitched him down the pipe, i.e., if he were only looking for a base hit. Oftentimes, if the pitch were really set up, he would pull it for a long drive. All of his hits would depend upon the situation in the game.

If the pitcher were to throw the Rajah an outside pitch, he would merely let it pass his normal hitting zone (in front of the plate) until it reached a point opposite the center of his body, and then he would blast it into right field.

The strongest point and greatest asset that a straightaway hitter has is that he forces the fielders to guard the entire playing surface, thus enhancing his chances for a base hit. The more ground a fielder has to cover, the more chance the batter has of blooping in a base hit.

Our third type of hitter is the slice or late hitter. This chap is one who stands far enough away from the plate so that he is able to hit even an inside pitch to the opposite field. Let us assume that we have a right-handed batter. He would stand far away from the plate and step into each pitch, hitting everything into the opposite field, in this case, to right field. He is able to do this by permitting the pitch to pass home plate slightly. Then the batter lashes into the pitch and slaps it into right field. Because he does not hit the ball until it is almost into the catcher's mitt, this batter is called a late hitter.

All teams have a need and specific use for a late hitter. He is usually the hit and run man and, as a rule, bats second in the line-up. Here is a common situation in which he is a decided asset: a fast runner is on first

base, with nobody out. The runner breaks for second base on the pitch. The second baseman runs over to second to prevent the steal. Meanwhile the batter, who has the hit and run sign, slices the ball to right field. The ball is grounded through the position just vacated by the second baseman. and it goes through to right field. The runner on first base, who has broken with the pitch, races all the way to third base, and if the long throw from right field to third is not cut off properly, the batter goes all the way to second base, placing two men in scoring position, just by means of a hit and run play. This is one of the most exciting plays in the game, and it takes an adept late batter, a hit and run man, to execute it perfectly,

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We have discussed the categories into which batters are generally classed. It must be kept in mind, however, that a batter cannot be classified exclusively as one particular type. Even a pull hitter occasionally rams a line drive to the opposite field. Straightaway hitters sometimes pull for distance, and late hitters sometimes cross up the defense by pulling a ball. A batter is classified by what he does the greater part of the time.

#### Place Hitting

Almost every batter who ever achieved a fair measure of success (.290 hitters and above that mark) was able to place hit with some facility. Place hitting means that a batter is able to hit the ball to the field that he wishes, or in the direction of a particular spot. When we speak of a place hitter, we usually mean that the batter is able to hit to the opposite field, i.e., a right-handed batter would hit to right field, and a left-handed batter would hit to left field.

There are three methods used in place hitting which are very common to experienced batters:

The first method, and the one most widely used, is the one in which the batter moves his rear foot away from the plate, thus pointing his shoulders toward the opposite field. Let us assume that the batter is right-handed. The exact opposite would be true for a left-handed batter. He is in excellent position merely to meet the ball and send it into right field.

A second method which is used with great efficiency is for the batter not to complete the break in his wrists. It should be kept in mind that each time a batter swings properly, he must break his wrists in order to get a smooth, effortless, speedy, and powerful swing. However, when the batter is trying to hit to the opposite

field, he does not want to break or roll his wrists (back wrist over the front one). This breaking of the wrists gives the batter a tendency to pull the ball, which is not his purpose when he is place hitting. Instead of breaking his wrists, the batter merely throws the bat out and pushes the ball into right field.

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The third method of place hitting is the most difficult to perform, but it provides the most power. In this method the batter changes his hitting zone from in front of the plate to a spot which is directly opposite the center of the batter's body. This merely means that the batter must wait until the ball is even with his body before he makes contact with the ball. He is actually holding back on his swing just a fraction of a second, before he hits the ball. When the bat makes contact with the ball, it is not yet perpendicular to the batter's body, and the bat level is facing right field. Thus the ball shoots off the bat and goes in a line which is directed by the angle of the bat.

A straightaway hitter is a natural place hitter. He hits inside pitches to left field (assuming the batter is righthanded), pitches down the gut, or middle of the plate, to center field, and outside pitches to right field. This is the manner in which the straightaway hitter performs these operations. On an inside pitch, the batter hits the ball before it reaches the plate. Let us study the position of the bat in this case. The level of the bat is facing left field when the ball is making contact with the bat. The ball must go in the direction to which it is aimed.

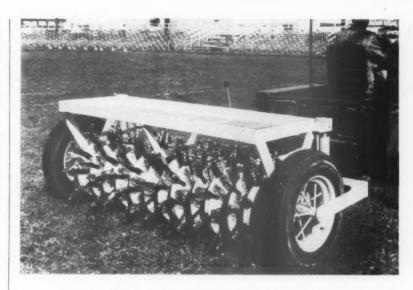
In like manner, a pitch thrown down the pipe is hit just as it reaches the plate. The bat is perpendicular to the batter and the level of it is facing toward center field. The ball must almost always go into center field

A pitch, which is thrown on the outside of the plate, is hit when it is almost behind the plate. The level of the bat will point to right field, to which the ball goes.

Place hitting for a straightaway hitter is an easy matter. For the pull hitter, placing hits is a little more difficult. It is necessary for the batter to adjust his timing or his stance, so that he can hit to the opposite field.

Joe DiMaggio was a great righthanded pull hitter in his days with the New York Yankees. Wherever he batted, the infield and the outfield would shift heavily to the left. Joe's philosophy of hitting was known. He was being paid \$100,000 per year to

(Continued on page 58)



## Your Team Deserves This Treatment

You wouldn't send your team out to play without helmets, without shoulder cushions, without pads. That would be inviting injury, the last thing you want to happen to the boys in your care.

Yet, you do invite injury if you send your team out to play on a field that is hard and compacted . . . that does not have a full cover of resilient turf.

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To help you, the West Point Products distributor in your area will be glad to arrange an Aerified demonstration for you and whomever you want to invite. If you need to know his name, write to West Point Products Corporation, Box 99, West Point, Penna.

Good luck in your campaign for a safer field for your boys!

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Aerification Is Basic to Turfgrass Maintenance

AVING baseball players responsible for coaching bases is mandatory according to high school rules. Most states forbid the coach or his assistant to act as a base coach and specify that this job be handled by a member of the team. Therefore, it is important that the base coach be trained for his job just as the players who are practicing for a game.

baseball. Players prefer an organized plan rather than a hit and miss affair.

The base coach must know the ability of each player on his team. Because most high schools do not play each other often enough to study the weaknesses of the opposition, we will not discuss that phase of base coaching. A base coach should know who the faster men on the team are; which

infield.

4. He should be reminded constantly of the count on the batter.

5. The base coach should remind the runner to check for the signal.

6. The runner should be told whether or not the pitcher has a good motion to first base or whether he rarely throws there.

After these instructions, the base

# **Train Your Base Coaches**

By NORMAN F. LEHMAN

Baseball Coach, Soap Lake, Washington, High School

Very often base coaching is a neglected phase of high school baseball. Many coaches do not make sure there are base coaches until a player is on base or a critical situation exists. The importance of base coaching must be stressed to the players or the job will be neglected.

By explaining that it is necessary for the batter and the runners to know the signals and stressing the fact that the base-runner will need assistance, the coach can encourage a boy to be a good base coach. The players must be shown how important base coaching is to team victory. Another method which is used to encourage base coaches is that of allowing them credit toward the winning of their school letter for the innings spent coaching. This will help to make the players realize that base coaching is as important to the team as a regular team position.

In selecting base coaches, the following qualifications should be kept in mind:

The base coach must be alert because he has to be looking continually for the break to advance a man to the next base. He must keep the runner alert at all times; therefore, he must be alert. Lazy base coaching leads to lazy running.

Good knowledge of the game and its rules are necessary on the part of the base coach. He should know when to play it safe or when to call for the extra base on a close play. Knowledge of the infield fly, the balk, and force play situations is needed to prevent mistakes. Included should be the coach's philosophy on baseball. A base coach cannot be criticized for mistakes unless he knows what the coach wants. The coach should make his ideas known to the whole team in order to instill confidence in his system of

ones can get the jump on a pitcher; what ability the players have for sliding; and whether or not they are aggressive enough to come in hard on close plays.

Aggressiveness is another requirement for a base coach. He must instill confidence in the runner, have a good voice, and use it continually.

If it is at all possible, the person coaching the bases should be one of the regular players, either a substitute fielder or an extra pitcher. These individuals have been in contact with actual play situations and can be of more assistance to an inexperienced base-runner.

When coaching first base, the base coach should be in the forward part of the coaching box. Thus he is in closer contact with the batter and is able to offer the runner encouragement in reaching first base.

When the ball is hit, the base coach has one of three choices in directing the runner. He should signal the runner either to run hard through the base, take his turn for second or take an extra base. On an infield hit, the base coach should be continually urging the runner toward first. Often the base coach can help the runner by using his arms in signaling him to take his turn for second.

When a runner is on first base, the following instructions should be relayed to him:

1. He should be told who has the ball, thus preventing any hidden plays.

2. He should know how many outs there are and whether to play it safe or take a chance.

3. He should know what to do on any type ball that is hit. As an example, he should run hard on a ground ball, part way on a fly ball, and hustle back on line drives to the

coach should give constant voice reminders to the runner to keep him alert.

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When there is a runner on second, the first base coach is also responsible for his safety. He must be doubly alert in watching both the shortstop and the first baseman so neither will be able to trap a runner off base. The first base coach can see how far the shortstop is from the bag better than the third base coach. The runner should also check the second baseman.

Since the third base coach is closest to home, he is vital in the scoring of a run on a close play. With a runner coming into third base, the base coach's job is threefold. He may wave his arm in a circular motion toward home plate, indicating that the runner should take his turn. He should hold his arms straight up with the palms out to indicate that the runner should hold at third. This signal can be given satisfactorily after the runner has been signaled to make his turn. If the runner should slide into the base, the base coach's arms should be extended with the palms down. His arms should be extended to the side of the bag away from the throw so the runner will be able to avoid the tag on the slide.

The third base coach should be well down the line toward home so that he has a clear field of vision and if necessary may hold up the runner after he takes the turn.

Initial instructions given the runner are primarily the same as those given at first base. Special emphasis should be placed on what to do when the ball is hit. The runner should be told when to attempt to score, hold up at third or draw a throw from a fielder.

A few rules of thumb to aid the third base coach in guiding the runners are as follows:

1. If the ball reaches the relay man about the time the runner is rounding third, he should be able to score.

2. Unless they are playing to cut off the run, a runner should score on a ball hit to the second baseman or the

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3. A runner should score on an outfield fly if the outfielder has to make a running catch (except when he is coming in towards the infield), if the ball is hit to normal depth of the outfielder or if the outfielder has a noticeably poor throwing arm.

4. A runner should attempt to draw the throw on short fly balls to the out-

5. The runner should be alert to the possibility of scoring on the catch of a foul ball if the fielder is in poor throwing position,

6. He should always be alert to the chance of scoring on a lapse of some

opposing team member.

The last situation where the use of a base coach is an aid is the case of a runner coming in to score. The next

NORMAN LEHMAN graduated from Gonzaga University. He played on and coached semi-professional teams for several years before starting to coach in high schools. His teams posted an overall .773 winning percentage. Last year the Soap Lake team lost only one game.

batter is in good position to offer assistance. He can give signals similar to those given by the third base coach regarding the direction of the slide in order to avoid the tag and also offer vocal encouragement.

A few general observations which may lead to better base coaching are

as follows:

1. Develop an awareness of the base coaches and the assistance they give the team members.

2. Have the base coach learn to use his hands as a megaphone when calling to the runners.

3. Impress on the players that intonations of a base coach's voice can express urgency to the runner.

4. The base coach should go through the different hidden signals such as touching his hat, brushing his trousers, etc., when no one is on. These actions will make his signals more difficult to steal.

5. The base coach should step over and talk to each runner in case verbal signals have to be given later on.



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# **New Trends in Teaching** Will Help Coaching

By CHARLES REAM

Backfield Coach, Dickinson College, Carlisle, Pennsylvania

WHEN a few boys at Princeton picked up a ball and began kicking it around, thus initiating college football, we doubt if anyone suspected that the game would grow into its present magnitude. Football has become a highly specialized and an increasingly scientific game. Many hours of practice are spent each day on conditioning and strategy so that the game can be won on Saturday afternoon.

To the average spectator football is little more than sitting in the crisp air on a beautiful fall afternoon watching 22 players try to carry the ball over their opponents goal line, but coaches know that football games are seldom won Saturday if they have not been won at practice during the week, These practices must be well-organized sessions in order to cover all of the material necessary to field a respectable team.

Coaches have many different theories concerning the content of a practice session. These differences of opinion make football the exciting game it is; however, all coaches agree that a practice must be well organized.

Coaches who are constantly seeking more practice time seldom stop to analyze their teaching to see if it is educationally sound. Educators have spent sums of money and centuries developing and testing methods of teaching, but many coaches fail to consider these results or relate them to their own situations. Physical education instructors have also done a great deal of research to help coaches evaluate and correct their programs. Let us take time out to look at some newer theories in physical education.

At the present time many coaches are still using a method of teaching that has been used for years. This technique is commonly known as the progression method or teaching from the specific to the general. While this theory sounds good and many football players have been taught in this manner, we found that even though an individual has mastered a series of various skills it does not follow that

he is a proficient competitor.

A good example of this theory is swimming. We have seen individuals perform the various swimming skills such as the stroke, the kick, etc., to perfection, but when these skills are combined to produce swimming, the results are seldom anything resem-

bling the sport.

Although it is possible to teach from the specific to the general, it is our theory that a reverse of this method gives faster results on the football field. It has always seemed to us that coaches take a negative approach to the quality of a team's skills. Instead of assuming a boy knows nothing and teach basic fundamentals, let us assume he knows a few skills and put him in a game situation working in reverse. Place 11 football players on offense, and 11 more on defense, and enter into a game situation. We will concede basic skills such as blocking and tackling must be taught first until a small degree of efficiency has been reached. However, we do maintain that too much time is lost teaching basic drills to a team where onehalf of the boys are already proficient in the skill. In the game situation, if one boy makes a mistake, replace him immediately and have one of the assistants take him aside and correct his error rather than stop the practice of 22 boys to correct one

As mentioned previously, some time must be spent on teaching the basic skills of the game which brings us to another theory physical educators have been testing and discuss-

HARLES REAM graduated from C the University of Pittsburgh. He coached at the Western Pennsylvania School for Blind Children, Canonsburg High School, and Wilkinsburg High School before accepting his present position as backfield, wrestling, and lacrosse coach at Dickinson College.

ing for quite some time. This theory is based on the statement that an individual is too unique and specific to deal in generalities with none or very few associated particulars. What is meant here is that in coaching football we should coach for excellent performance rather than excellence in the use of blocking dummies, driving sleds, running tires, etc. Although these skills have some merit, if more practice is needed, many of these apparatus drills are a waste of time. Many coaches, no doubt, have seen players develop perfection in various skills executed on apparatus only to see the same player in a game situation look as though he never had a bit of training.

It is our belief that the game situation must be present before true football learning can be mastered. We are not inferring that drill apparatus and equipment are useless; they can be used for conditioning purposes and do save wear and tear on the team. However, there is no substitute for real scrimmage. Many football coaches ase coming around to this theory. Small air dummies are replacing the large rag-filled type; blocking aprons are also being used more than ever before. In fact, from necessity rather than research, coaches have found half-time scrimmages to be more effective than individual one-on-one drills. This type of practice teaches position, angle of blocking, opponents' maneuvers, and desire that could never be taught with the same degree of time efficiency. We believe, that by creating a game situation and improving upon errors individually rather than penalizing boys who have already mastered the skill by making them drill their mastered skill over and over, we can save time on the practice field and at the same time field a better coached team.

In the future, we believe that athletic coaches will by accident or incident use research findings of educators in much the same way the medical doctor uses the results of medical

research.

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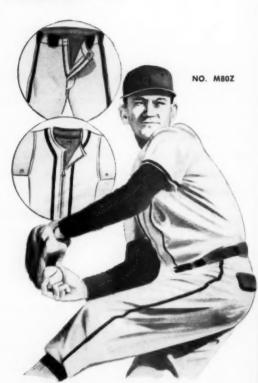
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# **Intramural** Program

(Continued from page 38)

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agers. They are given responsibilities in administration, publicity, statistics, and properties. All of the intramural managers are selected from the mem. bership of the Key Club, which is an affiliate of the Kiwanis Club. A candidate must have a scholastic average of at least B-, and is carefully judged as to his organizational ability, dependability, and willingness to participate in extra-curricular activities.

The intramural managers act as scorers, timers, doorkeepers, and referees for the various sports. The jobs are usually rotated among the members of the committee throughout the year. The student scorers are not required to have previous experience. and their training is provided by a special program which is set up for them by the director. Sports which require their participation include bowling, volleyball, riflery, softball, and touch football. The timers' duties are simple and well defined. Before a game they receive a clock, horn. team shirts, and game equipment. The shirts are distributed to team members, and the play equipment is given to the referees.

Most of the officiating at intramural games in Lima Senior High School is done by members of the student intramural committee. Although the job is a demanding one, there is never any shortage of volunteers, because of the system of training and selecting officials. In the fall, all committee members who are interested in becoming referees attend an organizational meeting at which nine sports in which they are needed are discussed. The rules of the current sports are reviewed along with the specific rules required of officials. If a boy is still interested, he is asked to attend clinics for a detailed explanation and demonstration of the rules. Finally, the volunteers attend tryout sessions at the close of which the final decision regarding appointment is made.

In addition to officiating, the referees are called upon to attend to equipment and to work with the timers and scorers. It is the student official's job to see that the game equipment is ready 15 minutes before play is scheduled to begin. He receives the equipment either from the timer, or in games in which time periods are not used, directly from the equipment manager. He must also appear properly dressed, and is personally re-

(Continued on page 54)

# **Playing Catch**

(Continued from page 16)

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The object of speed catch is to get rid of the ball as soon as possible after it is caught. This drill is fun and is a great conditioner. The players fire the ball back and forth with increasing speed, and must be constantly mindful of accuracy. Speed catch will teach balance, and develop the ability to throw from many positions. It will help boys who have trouble getting rid of the ball quickly in a game situation. Players stand 50 to 60 feet apart (Diagram 5).

Three-cornered catch will teach the fundamental of receiving a throw, turning, and throwing to a third person. In this particular version, two boys stand side by side, playing catch with a third boy. After each throw, one of the two will move right or left a few steps along the arc of a circle described around the third player. This forces the third, or center player to turn his body a little more for each succeeding return throw. The drill continues until the three boys are in a straight line, after which positions are rotated. Throwing distance is 90 to 100 feet (Diagram 6).

## **Base Paths**

(Continued from page 20)

We realize that the ideal time to call this play is when the pitcher is behind the hitter and there is a reasonable chance that he will come in with the next one. However, it has been our experience that this orthodox situation often does not prevail when the play is in order. This past season we have had some success in calling the play on the first pitch. Many young pitchers who are concerned about their control will often try to get a fat part of the plate with the first pitch. Many of them are coached accordingly. We also realize that probably more pitch-outs are called on the first pitch than at any other time. We will gamble on this since we believe the odds are still with the offense.

#### Suicide Squeeze

Here is another play which we thought was only for the professionals until one of our opponents showed us otherwise a couple of years ago. Three times he called for the play and three times he scored a run. The first time our pitcher hurried his pitch and threw the ball into the dirt, and there was no play; the second time the catcher dropped the ball in his anxiety to make the tag; and on the



third attempt the opponents managed to bunt the ball for the first time and a run scored. By the time the game was over, which we lost 5-3, our catcher and pitcher were both in temporary states of psychoneurosis and the remainder of the team was in a state of deep depression. The very next day we started to work on this play and have used it ever since.

We know that some coaches will say that the play is too dangerous since young ball players often do not bunt well. Just as in the hit and run play, the batter may not touch the ball and still the team can succeed. Here again there is some possibility of misplay on the part of the defense. We know of no play in baseball which is more damaging to the morale of the defense than a theft of home. A misfired suicide squeeze might result in the runner on third stealing home. We have seen it happen too many times to dispute it. Pitchers may fail to look toward third before the pitch to keep the base-runner honest, they may throw wild in hurrying their throw to the plate or the catcher may handle his tag poorly.

#### **Bunt and Run**

A few times each season we advance

runners all the way to third from first on this play. The batter attempts to bunt down third in order to pull in the third baseman to handle the ball. Our base-runner on first is coached to put his head down and take off with the pitch just as in a steal. If he hears the ball bunted, he looks up just as he approaches second to see where the ball has been placed and whether he has a chance to keep on for third. He, not the third base coach, makes the decision. If he hears no bunt, he is prepared to slide into second. If the third baseman handles the ball and does not get back to his bag quickly, we feel we have it made. In fact, we can make it even when the third baseman is alert if we know the first baseman cannot throw well. Of course, this throw is comparable to the catcher's throw to second and is a tough one for many first basemen.

This play can also score a man from second if it is well executed, Again the batter tries to bunt down third since the third baseman cannot play the ball and watch the base-runner who is behind him. If the third baseman handles the ball and throws to first, we feel we have a run. This play backfired on us once when the opposing third baseman started his throw to first, held back, and threw home.

Since great opportunities to steal bases in a game have been pointed out, it might seem that we would see no need for this play. Why use an out to get a man from first to third if he can steal these two bases? Obviously the steal is not that easy, particularly of third. Against a weak catcher we might have no need for the bunt and run, but when the risk is too great we might employ this play. If it succeeds, we have a man on third with one out, and it is possible for him to score in a number of ways.

#### The Sacrifice Bunt

From the foregoing it might be felt that there is no place for the sacrifice in our scheme of things. Such is not the case. In a close ball game against a tough pitcher and good throwing catcher, we would not hesitate to use this play. Our feeling is that the sacrifice bunt is often used needlessly in high school and college games to advance a runner.

#### Double Steal

Actually we have three different types of double steals for situations in which there are runners on first and third. The key to all of these is

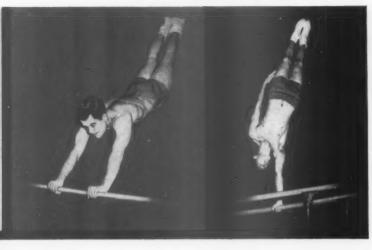


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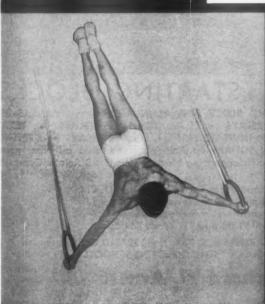




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when the man on first starts his steal. It may be before the pitch, with the pitch or after the pitch. We have had the most success with the first type and manage to get ourselves several runs a season on this play alone.

Our objective on the play is to score a man from third and we are willing to spend an out to do it. If the defense will make no play on the man taking second, we are thwarted, but have placed another man in a scoring position. Our players have the greatest chance of coaxing the defense into a play if the man on first starts toward second as the pitcher goes into his stretch. Without going into the details, there is a reasonable chance of getting the run if the pitcher throws through to second to head off the play.

Sometimes we send the man on first through as a straight steal. If the catcher throws down without first looking toward third, we believe our team can score. Occasionally we try to surprise the catcher by starting our man to second just as the catcher is about to throw the ball back to the pitcher. If the catcher throws to second, or to the pitcher who in turn throws to second, we feel we have a good chance of scoring.

We have shown a number of ways in which the offense can show daring

on the base paths and gain some measure of advantage in high school and college baseball. Obviously daring cannot always be substituted for base hits. In a game last season we managed to go ahead in the early innings 3-0 against a team far superior to ours by using some of the tactics which have been discussed. However, when the smoke cleared we lost 12-3 because our cute stuff was no match for their booming bats. Then, too, many of these plays are not in order when a team is several runs behind. We point out to our boys that a good part of our offense is given up if we let the other team get off to a lead of several runs. When this happens, all the daring and courage in the world will not substitute for a few good solid base hits.

# Discus Analyzed

(Continued from page 14)

constantly experimenting with 2 and even 21/4 turns, but to date without marked success.

Using 13/4 turns with a hop, the two University of Minnesota athletes, Bob Fitch and Fortune Gordien, devised their own method of increasing the speed with which they whirled across the circle. This new style was

based on a simple principle of physics, and their application of it enabled each to establish a world discus throwing record. Fitch and Gordien actual. ly fell off balance to gain initial momentum, and then caught up with the falling body as they reached the power position. By using far more off-body balance than ever before attempted, these two men were able to increase again the centrifugal force that could be applied on the discus. Today we see two distinct styles in use throughout the world - the orthodox turn and the Minnesota turn.

#### Hold

In teaching and understanding either of the prevailing styles of discus throwing, the athlete must learn first how to hold the discus in his hand so it may be effectively released clockwise off the index finger. The discus must be comfortable in the hand, the fingers should be spread slightly, and the finger tips with the exception of the thumb should be over the edge. It is released from the index finger in a clockwise rotation, with the palm of the hand facing down. The thumb lies at about 45° to 50° to the index finger and the very tip is just up to the edge of the

# Here is the block with which records are made

|                            | Time         | Place                               | Date               |
|----------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Event<br>100-Yd. Dash      | 9.3          | Fresne, Calif.                      | 5/15/48            |
| 100-Yd. Dash               | 9.3          | Evanston, III.                      | 5/14/55            |
| 100-Yd. Dash               | 9.3          | Freens, Calif.                      | 3/12/56            |
| 100-Yd. Dash               | 9.3          | Durham, N. C.                       | 5/ 5/56            |
| 100-Yd. Dash               | 9.3          | Texas Relays                        | 4/ 6/57            |
| 100-Yd. Dash               | 9.4          | Abilene, Tex.                       | 4/27/57            |
| 220-Yd. Dash               | 20.0         | Sanger, Calif.                      | 6/ 9/56            |
| 220-Yd. Dash               | 20.2         | Los Angeles                         | 5/ 7/49            |
| 440-Yd. Run                | 46.2         | Salt Lake City                      | 6/21/47            |
| 440-Yd. Run<br>440-Yd. Run | 46.0<br>45.8 | Berkeley, Calif.<br>Modesto, Calif. | 8/ 5/48<br>5/26/56 |
| 129-Yd. H.H.               | 13.5         | Freene, Calif.                      | 3/15/50            |
| 220-Yd. L.H.               | 22.2         | Durham, N. C.                       | 5/ 5/56            |
| 220-Yd. L.H.               | 22.3         | Salt Lake City                      | 6/21/47            |
| 400-Meter H.               | 49.5         | Los Angeles                         | 6/29/56            |
| 110-Moter H.               | 13.4         | Bakersfield, Calif.                 | 6/22/56            |
| 880-Yd. Run                | 1:46.8       | L. A. Relays                        | 5/24/57            |
| 2-M Relay                  | 7:22.7       | L. A. Relays                        | 5/24/57            |
| 880-Relay                  | 1:22.7       | Texas Relays                        | 4/ 4/57            |
| 440-Relay                  | 39.9         | Kansas Relays                       | 4/20/57            |
| 440-Relay                  | 39.9         | W. C. Relays                        | 5/11/57            |

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discus. During the swing, turn, and release the thumb and the spread little finger give the thrower stability and control of the implement. The actual finger placement and spread vary considerably and only experimentation can determine an individual's most effective grip. In any event, the athlete should not wrap his fingers too far over the edge. The vast majority of throwers have found that a uniform spread of all fingers is more comfortable and effective.

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The grip on the discus should be firm, but not tense, because during the turn centrifugal force will hold the discus in the hand so a vise-like grip with the fingers is not necessary. In addition, an easy grip on the discus will enable the thrower's wrist to drop back or cock during the turn so that the final flip into the discus can be accomplished on release.

#### Discus Swing

Important phases in discus throwing are the rhythm and tempo of preliminary swinging of the discus, prior to the start of the turn. The angle of the swing also plays a vital part in the angle at which the arm will be carried throughout the turn and in the angle of discus flight itself. Of more importance is the tremendous effect that the rhythm and smoothness of the preliminary swing has on the relaxation, speed, and coordination of the turn and throw. An athlete who swings the discus in a careless manner simply cannot start the turn suddenly with a more determined rhythm or at a sudden increased speed without destroying smoothness and relaxation. The preliminary discus swing should be close to the plane in which it is to be delivered, and at a rhythm and rate consistent with the athlete's actual turning speed.

#### Discus Flight

The optimum angle at which the discus should be thrown is very close to 35°; however, most experienced throwers vary the angle of their throw under different wind conditions. In general, a head wind requires a low-thrown, flat discus because in this situation a discus can climb just as an airplane wing does when it is moving into a wind. On a still day, or with a slight tail wind, the thrower usually attempts to lift the discus at an angle greater than 30° because gravity becomes a more important factor when head wind is not present.

head wind is not present. In 1931, Daniel Guggenheim of the School of Aeronautics at New York University, made an exhaustive study You get total participation in your PHYSICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM with a Gree Harvard Kit for Gold Medal HARVARD TABLE TENNIS TOURNAMENTS



of the discus in flight through use of a wind tunnel. His study is still the basis of what we know about discus action in flight. Understanding how the various forces act upon the discus when it is moving forward has helped us determine individual technique, throwing angles, and meet strategy. In April of 1932, James A. Taylor wrote of Guggenheim's study as follows:

"As an object moves forward, it tends to create a vacuum or rarefied air in back of it. Due to the shape of the discus, when thrown at an angle upward from the horizontal and less

than vertical, the partial vacuum is in back and on top. But there is pressure always below, both normal pressure due to its own motion and also the pressure of any wind which may be blowing. There is, therefore, a constant pushing of the discus up into this partial vacuum. This is the lift and is what tends to make the discus overcome the force of gravity to that extent and appears under certain circumstances to sail. This happens both in still air and when the wind is blowing against the course of the discus. The natural inference is, that the stronger the head wind, the higher

the discus goes and the longer it remains in the air, and hence the farther it would go. This is partially true, but only up to a certain point. The strength of the wind finally becomes such that it kills momentum or forward motion of the discus, and while it goes higher, it falls down straighter, and covers less horizontal distance than if there were no wind. If the wind were strong enough, it would blow the discus backward. What then is the happy medium? It is the point where the lift is the greatest as compared with the backward pressure or drag.

"The tunnel tests show that up to between 7 and 8 miles per hour the elevating effect of a head wind is an increasing help, but that when greater than 7 to 8 miles per hour such help decreases steadily up to 14.5 miles per hour, at which point the head wind

becomes a detriment.

"A tail wind shows some rather astonishing results . . . We have seen that with a head wind there was a partial vacuum formed in back of the discus, but when the wind is following the course of the discus there is very much less vacuum formed behind the discus and the pressure of the air against the under side of the discus being less even than in still air, there is not only less lift to elevate the discus at any stage of flight, but the wind blowing from behind and striking the discus at an angle may give even a downward pressure . . Computations were made up to 14 miles per hour and the results were progressively detrimental to the distance obtained. There was no factor apparent to warrant any conclusion but that the stronger the tail wind, the less distance would be made by the discus."2

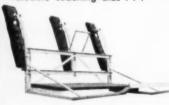
As most coaches and athletes realize, a side wind is the most difficult to throw in, and from this study we can understand why. Mr. Taylor shows that when the wind comes from an angle a partial vacuum is formed on one side of the discus tending to turn

It is obvious that a head wind of less than 8 miles per hour is an advantage to the thrower if he is throwing directly into it with an initial angle of about 35°. In still air an angle of throw higher than 35° is recommended, and when the wind is blowing from the rear we learn that a theory held by many (that the wind blows the discus farther) is completely erroneous, and a flat, highly thrown

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<sup>2</sup>Taylor, James A., "Behavior of the Discus in Flight," *The Athletic Journal*, April, 1932, Vol. 12, No. 8, pp. 10, 45, 46. le

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#### Beginning Throwing

Unlike some field events such as the broad jump and the high jump, the discus throw is not a natural action which is attempted in some form by children the world over.

Youngsters high jump and broad jump constantly and have a certain feeling once they are taught a form. Discus throwing, however, is not throwing at all, in the sense the general population thinks of throwing. For this reason teaching a boy to throw the discus usually means starting with basic activity and ending with years of practice and literally thousands of throws. This point was brought home to us when Ron Kramer. Michigan's All-American basketball and football player, reported for the discus throw one spring. Kramer had never had a discus in his hand prior to reporting and we both learned quickly that discus technique offers many problems even for one of the nation's greatest athletes. For four months Kramer labored daily, and although he bettered 150 feet, neither of us felt he was able to approach his true potential in such a short time. Two or three years and 3000 more throws and Kramer might have been one of the world's greatest throwers, but there is no quick, easy path to supremacy in this complicated event.

Following the mastery of the hand hold, swing, and scale the beginner must then throw without using a turn. At first he should throw from a stationary position, and then by stepping forward and dropping into throwing position the athlete can master the actual competitive delivery position and action prior to attempting the turn. It should be mentioned that while it may be necessary to learn discus throwing in stages, it most certainly is not to be thought of in those terms once the various phases are put together for competitive throwing.

#### Throwing From a Stand

The powerful throwing position prior to the release of the discus can be simulated from the stand and must be practiced by inexperienced throwers. This position would find the athlete with his left foot planted close to the forward edge of the circle at about a 30° angle. His toes should be placed about four inches back of a circle diameter and his leg should be semistraight. The right foot is planted solidly at a 45° angle some 30 inches toward the rear of the circle, with the toes touching circle diameter. The right knee should be flexed, and the discus drawn well back trailing the right hip and shoulder. The right hip is cocked or closed and the right hip bone is around to the right. The trunk is twisted or coiled clockwise to the right and at a 45° angle to the rear, with the head up and eyes horizontal to the ground. Inasmuch as the left arm has little constructive work to do with successful discus throwing, the best advice concerning it is to keep it relaxed, below the shoulder and, during standing throws at least, around in front of the body to help keep the right shoulder and hip in a closed position.

This position is the power position for discus throwing in both the orthodox style and the Minnesota style.

The application of force on the discus from the power position, from a stand, starts with a violent extension of the right leg as the entire right side of the body, including the trailing discus, lifts and rotates forward, while the hips lead the throw. Simultaneously, the shoulders lift and rotate to the left as the body weight shifts from the right leg to the left leg that is bracing against the lifting and rotating shifting weight. The athlete's chest, chin, and eyes lift slightly but mostly forward as his back



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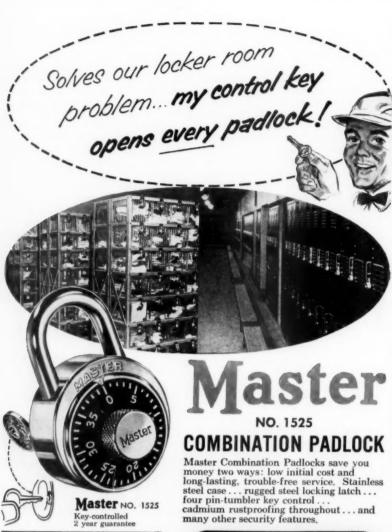
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arches. Combined with the forward lifting and rotational action of the body, the athlete exerts a steady. strong, almost horizontal pull on the discus, always in the plane in which the discus is to be released. The final impetus that the athlete gives to the discus is on the end of the pull as the thrower rides high over the left leg and cuts into the discus with his index finger and wrist snap. When the novice thrower has thoroughly mastered the power position and delivery from a stand, or by stepping forward into throwing position, he may direct his attention to turning with the discus through the circle to add momentum. In doing so, the vast majority of throwers use 1 3/4 turns and either the orthodox style or the fast but more complicated Minnesota style.

Next month we plan to discuss the orthodox style and the Minnesota style, and then in conclusion will present our views on competition and training.

# Intramural Program

(Continued from page 46)

sponsible for furnishing his own shoes. After each time period, and at the end of the game, it is his duty to check each team's score.

Throughout the school year the various officials receive careful instruction from the director. He meets frequently with his officials and supervisors especially during the early part of each season. The director backs up the officials whenever necessary by imposing penalties for teams or players who are guilty of misconduct.

The most important job held by a member of the Key Club is that of student director. His responsibilities include readying the play area, seeing that games are run off smoothly, maintaining order, settling disputes as they arise, and clearing the area after a game. The student director is also expected to make official reports of all injuries.

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The last unit in the organizational chart at Lima is that of team managers or captains. Their responsibilities are as follows: check on the eligibility of each of the team members; aid in selecting team members; coach the team: know and follow the schedule of games for the team; know and follow the rules of the games; and see that the team members are properly dressed for the games.

#### Units of Competition

Two major classifications for units

of competition are employed — one for team sports, and the other for individual sports. The grade level is the favored unit for each. The major unit for team sports is the grade — sophomore, junior or senior — which is subdivided into teams within the gymnasium classes, which number about 10 in each grade. Since these classes are usually quite large, they are often subdivided into two weight groups, depending upon the sport. The members of the teams are selected by the class.

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The grade as the unit of competition is used for most of the individual sports. Bowling, riflery, and golf divide players from all three grades into groups according to a system of handicaps, while wrestling and boxing use weight as the basis of classification.

#### **Program of Activities**

Of the 20 sports offered, 10 are identified as vigorous and 10 as non-vigorous. Six are team sports and 14 are individual activities. It is felt that the preponderance of individual over team sports stimulates interest and compensates somewhat for the emphasis given to team sports by the varsity athletic program.

The following sports are offered: fall — bowling, cross-country, football skills, touch football, and volleyball; winter — badminton, basketball, bowling, boxing, free throw shooting, gymnastics, riflery, spot shooting, swimming, table tennis, and wrestling; spring — golf, horseshoes, softball, tennis, and track and field.

#### Methods of Organizing Competition

The most popular type of tournament used is the round robin. It is used for the more popular sports of volleyball, football, basketball, bowling, table tennis, and riflery. The single elimination is used for badminton, boxing, free throw shooting, riflery, shuffleboard, spot shooting, and wrestling. For tennis, and wrestling the ladder tournament is employed. The Olympic meet plan is utilized for cross-country, football skills, golf, gymnastics, swimming, track, and wrestling.

#### Point System and Award Plans

Until recently the director employed a point system for groups and individual competitors which was intended to provide more motivation and thereby increase participation. The great amount of clerical work demanded, when compared with the meager advantages, led to the aban-







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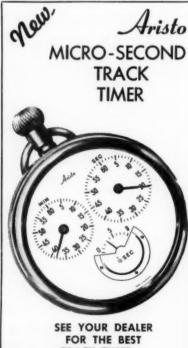


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donment of this system.

Awards are viewed as symbols of recognition of accomplishment rather than as devices for motivation, and are given only to the winners in the seven most popular sports which are basketball, spot shooting, free throw shooting, bowling, table tennis, track, and swimming. All awards are presented to individuals. Five types of awards which are given in ascending order of their cost are: certificates. shoulder patches, medals, keys, and trophies. As many as 200 certificates are awarded during the year. These awards are presented at a special intramural meeting which is held at the end of the school year. This ceremony is recorded on tape and broadcast later from the local radio station.

#### Rules and Regulations

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Two types of rules and regulations govern intramural competition at Lima. There are rules governing individual sports, and those dealing with general conditions prevailing in all sports.

The first set is derived mainly from standard rules which are widely accepted among high schools. The second set of rules deals with general matters such as the eligibility of players, forfeits, and protests. They are all evaluated each year by the commit-

The following rules are in effect and are given in the constitution:

1. A student who has received a varsity letter shall not be eligible to compete in the intramural program in that particular sport.

2. A player who has entered one sport with a given team may not transfer to another team in that same sport after one game has been played by his team.

3. A team shall forfeit any contest in which it uses an ineligible player. 4. Any player in varsity or junior

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varsity competition who is scholastically ineligible will also be ineligible for intramural competition.

5. A player may not play on more than one team in any sport.

6. A player at the varsity or junior varsity skill level who is not out for the varsity sport may not compete in that sport in intramurals.

7. Physical examination by a doctor may be required at the discretion of

the intramural director.

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8. Holders of excuses for physical education classes may not participate in intramural sports.

9. All protests must be submitted in writing within 24 hours after the contest in question.

10. A team forfeits a match if it fails to appear within five minutes of the scheduled time of play.

11. Teams in all sports must have the legal minimum present in order to start play.

#### Facilities and Equipment

Lima Senior High School has the following facilities: a double gymnasium, two large gymnasium balconies each 30 by 20 feet, an auxiliary gymnasium or activity room 40 by 62 feet, two hard-top playgrounds, and a running track. There are eight different off-campus facilities. A city park two and one-half blocks away furnishes areas for contests such as tennis, softball, horseshoes, and crosscountry. The playground area of the park equals six regulation football fields, and the perimeter serves as a two-mile cross-country course.

The YMCA, less than two blocks from the school, lends its pool for swimming. For rifle matches, the students walk just one block to the range set up by the Lima Rifle Association. Nearby is the National Guard Armory, which allows the high school to use its eight horseshoe pits.

Other facilities are not quite as convenient. Supplementary tennis courts are available at the elementary school and the golfers use two golf courses.

Equipment furnished to the intramural players is of first quality, and no seconds or hand-me-downs from the varsity are used. The physical education budget is the source of the funds used for the purchase of equipment, and the director turns in his requisitions to the principal. Intramural supplies are stored separately from those of the varsity teams or physical education classes.

#### Publicity

The nine media for publicizing

Lima intramural activities, in descending order of their estimated value are: bulletin boards, school newspaper, intramural handbook, public address system, posters, local radio and television stations, city newspaper, school annual, and class notices.

The bulletin boards are especially effective because they are located in the hallway near the main entrance of the gymnasium and in the cafeteria. They are maintained by the student managers, and are filled with interesting material.

Finances

With the exception of \$60.00 from student activity fees allotted to the program to pay for awards and engraving, the necessary funds come from the physical education budget. The principal pays \$12.00 for the use of the YMCA pool. The cost of operating the intramural program at Lima is low considering its breadth, because of savings in such areas as the publication of the handbook by the printing department, maintenance of equipment by the home economics and shop departments, generous cooperation of the community, in general, and the cooperation of service clubs and individuals.

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# **Place Hitting**

(Continued from page 41)

hit home runs. People came to see him do it. He could not change his style of hitting just because the fielders were overshifting on him. Of course, occasionally Joe had no alternative but to hit a few balls into right field, just to keep the defense from getting too dishonest.

Players who attempt to become adept place hitters are those who do not usually have the power to become home run hitters. Don Mueller is one of them. Don hit a very handsome .342, and there is no more scientific hitter in baseball today, with the possible exception of Roberto Avila who won the American League batting crown with a .341 mark. Both these players are excellent place hitters.

Batters small in stature, and who lack the power necessary to become consistent home run hitters should practice until they become accomplished place hitters.

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How to Coach Fast Break Basketball, by Michael Esposito. Published by Prentice-Hall, Inc., Englewood Cliffs, N. J. One hundred and seventy-one pages. Publication date Jan. 5. Received for review Jan. 7.

Michael Esposito devoted his entire text to the fast break, and a more thorough job could not have been done. After discussing the basic fundamentals and the selection of personnel, he delves into the subject by describing the different fast break systems and how they operate from the various zone defenses and the man-for-man as well as against full court and halfcourt presses. Concluding the material on the offensive side of the fast break is a chapter devoted to the blending of the fast break with a deliberate style of play. The author considers the man-for-man defense the most effective to use against the fast break. He also discusses the different types of zones as well as the presses, analyzing each as to player personnel. Strategy, both offensive and defensive; suggestions on scouting fast break teams; suggestions on installing the fast break; and a daily practice schedule conclude this excellent text. The book is illustrated and contains 100 diagrams. We feel it is a valuable addition to basketball literature.

# 440 Record Holder

(Continued from page 7)

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tune seemed to take hold of our champion. One morning Dave stepped off a curb and received a bad sprain which kept him off his feet for almost two weeks. He could only do jogging for another two weeks, but when the city indoor meet rolled around Dave was in good enough shape to run away from everyone in the field.

A 48-second 440 was set as his goal for the year. The first outdoor workouts were over the short distances.

Monday-1. Up the ladder - 25 yards, 50 yards, 75 yards, 100 yards, and 150 yards. The only rest granted was the walk back to the start. 2. Sprinting the curves and walking the straightaways. The idea of running as close to the lines as possible was stressed. 3. Pacing through a 660.

Tuesday-1. Three 330's at 39 seconds. Walk a lap between each. 2. Starts going 50 yards on each. 3. Pace through an 880.

Wednesday-Repeat Monday's workout.

Thursday-Repeat Tuesday's work-

Friday-Ten 120-yard pick-ups on the grass.

The first meet of the outdoor season was held in the rain and on a heavy track at Bethany, West Virginia. Dave ran a 48.5 that day and amazed everyone. Any sprinter who could set that time under the existing weather conditions had an excellent potential on a good track. When the season was underway, there were two meets a week for several weeks. Tuesday and Saturday were our meet days. This schedule did not allow time for much work between meets. A great deal of Dave's training for the balance of the season was in the 330's and 660's.

The 330's were gradually lowered to a point where he was really going all-out to hit 36 seconds. This work was done on Wednesday and Thursday, so Dave was only getting one full day of rest before a big meet. After the second week in May, we stopped all force work during the week and worked on starts and pick-ups on the grass. After his final week of 330 work, Dave responded with 47.8 at the Miami (Ohio) Relays. The last two weeks of the season he had a 46.8 440 in the district meet, and in his final meet, the state meet, he won the 100 in 9.7, the 440 in 46.6, and the 220 in 21.2 seconds.

Looking over his times in the three

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races for three years, Dave's best times were as follows: Tenth Grade — 10.0, 22.3, and 49.9. Eleventh Grade — 9.85, 21.8, and 49.6. Twelfth Grade — 9.7, 21.2, and 46.6.

With the exception of one time trial, Mills never ran a 440 during practice. Most of his work was done in the 330 and 660. The time was always given at each 110 yard mark so correct pace could be practiced. Mills had the ability to judge his pace well and could always hit the 220 mark in the time asked. When he set the national 440 record, we told him to hit the first 220 in 22 seconds. His time was 22 flat.

Being a sprint-type quarter-miler he was able to get a fast start and stay out of trouble. In many races, after coming out of the chute, Dave would select the best lane for the balance of the way to the curve.

There are always some factors which help a boy achieve success. During his high school career Dave never drove a car or took the bus to school. He lived a mile and a half from school and walked both ways. During the summer he spent many hours on his racing bike, riding wherever he had to go. Wheat germ was added to his diet and he used it daily. He also took soda mint pills after a race to settle his stomach.

Dave never ran the 880 in competition, but he is made for that distance. He ran a time trial in that distance one day and came in with a 2:01 without forcing himself. With proper work for the 880, we are sure he could have been in the 1:55 group.

Dave had the mental attitude necessary to become a great track man. He was one of the finest boys with whom we ever worked. He put out 100 per cent and was always willing to help the younger runners. His opponents always looked up to him, not only for his running ability, but for his fine sportsmanship and his ability to maintain modesty. His goal is to run with the 1960 United States Olympic team. Dave will become a U.S. citizen before the next Olympics. A coach could not ask his own son to be a finer person. In his final performance in the 440, Dave gave all who worked with him a thrill they will never for-

# Distances

(Continued from page 8)

should be a spontaneous urge, something that should not be dictated by the individual or others. A distance man should train each day. The use of a stop watch in training should be discouraged. It should be used only for trials when the athlete wishes to test himself. Running against the stop watch with specified times for each section of work can bring on lethargy if the distance man does not achieve the times he has set out to accomplish.

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Training should not be conducted in groups. This type of training tends to bring about a racing effect. Some distance men cannot maintain the speeds of others. Since racing is an individual effort, training must be conducted for the individual athlete.

As we mentioned previously, training for distance running should be a spontaneous urge. The application of distances run in training should also be spontaneous. Although we do not advocate alternating work in training, this definitely has a marked effect on man's physical well-being. When used, this type of training should be moderate.

Many coaches do not consider that the ability to move over the ground efficiently and economically is essential, and they place little emphasis on upper body development. The upper body is the motor or engine, and the legs should be considered as the wheels. If the motor is not strong enough, it will not turn the wheels. While it is true that many athletes have natural ability, those who do not will be able to overcome their discrepancies through the use of resistance exercises. Any form of resistance exercise is beneficial.

We have experienced success with weight lifting and sand running (mainly over sand hills.) All of the work should be carried on in the offseason, and should be continued for a minimum of three months. After training in this manner, the athlete will find that his running will be a little sluggish when it is time to return to the track. As he continues his daily exercise, he will find that when the sluggishness wears off he has strength and power, something which has been developed. He will also find that the strength and power which he has acquired diminishes little over the years.

If running can be done before the weight training session, it is advisable. This program is to be started at the conclusion of the track season. A typical week's workout during the offseason would be as follows:

Monday—Fartlek 5 miles. Weight training.

Tuesday — Fartlek 10 miles. Wednesday — Fartlek 5 miles. Weight training.

Thursday - Fartlek 10 miles.

Friday - Fartlek 5 miles. Weight training.

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Saturday - Fartlek 10 miles. Weight rraining.

Sunday - Fartlek 10 miles. Weight

The athlete must want to be up. He must exaggerate the degree of lift by being conscious of his running at all times. Lift means to run over the ground, not into it. Many athletes are not conscious of their movements. In every move that is made in training, the athlete must be conscious of its effect. Even when he is walking or sitting, he must want to be up.

Most athletes feel that in training for distance running, long hours on the track must be endured. If one can afford this time, the longer spent at it the better. For those who cannot afford the time, an hour and a half each day will be sufficient. This hour and a half should be spent on continuous running, but if the athlete can do two hourly sessions daily, it is to his advantage.

Although we do not advocate training schedules, we would like to show what could be done in a seven-day workout with two sessions daily.

Morning - Monday - Fartlek 6 miles. Tuesday - Fartlek 6 miles. Wednesday - Fartlek 6 miles. Thursday - Fartlek 6 miles. Friday - Fartlek 6 miles. Saturday - Fartlek 6 miles. Sunday - Fartlek 6 miles.

Evening — Monday — 220 yards. Jog 220 yards. Tuesday — 330 yards — 110 yards. Rest by jogging. Wednesday -110. Jog curves and run the straightaways, Thursday - 220 yards. Jog 220 vards. Friday - 110 yards. Jog curves and run the straightaways. Saturday - 330 yards - 110 yards. Rest by jogging. Sunday - 220 yards. Jog 220 vards

The actual amount of work the athlete will do in the evening session depends largely on his capabilities. He will continue to exercise until he is reasonably tired. Then he will rest by jogging, and continue to work in this fashion until he has a feeling of complete weariness. Henderson never runs more than the 330's described at any time during training.

When actual racing starts, training is somewhat curtailed. The athlete will continue to work hard until Thursday. On Thursday 220's are preferred and the athlete will be justified if he can gauge his training to this point. A workout is usually scheduled on Friday morning which consists of about 6 miles Fartlek. Sometimes, depending on the athlete's attitude, a light workout could be done in the evening, a sort of active rest but very light, two miles or so.





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# A New Type of Incentive Award



A LMOST all track and field coaches face an incentive problem. As a matter of fact, this puzzle is usually threefold.

First, a problem which many coaches face yearly is that of having their charges set high enough seasonal goals — goals which will force the aspirant or seasoned runner to extend himself to his utmost in both meets and practice sessions.

A second knotty problem in this sport is that which concerns itself with those boys who are relatively consistent point-gainers, or at least colorless, hard-workers, but who rarely break into the circle of winners. These boys tend to become discouraged because they are never in the limelight, and feel as if their efforts are going unrewarded.

A third puzzle which many coaches encounter is that of encouraging runners to attempt new events. The discovery of new talent and the availability of extra men in relay events will be increased if the boys will only venture into new fields with a willing attitude.

The standard award program presents a solution to all of these problems. Basically, here is how the program works. A standard time or distance is set for each track or field event. The standard should be set high enough to be an inspirational goal, but it should also be within the grasp of the top two to four boys in each event. The exact number of boys

will depend upon the size and composition of the team. Setting the standard is a problem which each individual coach, equipped with full knowledge of his team, must decide for himself. At no time, however, should the standard be lowered – it should be raised yearly, as the team improves, or in weak years at least kept at the same height.

At the beginning of the season placards stating the standards in each event should be posted, and the awards for reaching these standards

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Some coaches may feel their budgets will not permit awards. We felt that way when we heard of the standard program in England. In that trackminded nation, standards are set in every event from the shot put to the marathon. Furthermore, there are club, county, and national standards, each proportionately more difficult to attain than the one which precedes it. When a competitor satisfies 1 standard requirement, he is given 1 medal which commemorates his performance in the event, and the date of the performance. His name is place ed on the medal. This is an expensive though a worthwhile endeavor.

We considered the expense involved and decided to use a standard ortificate, as shown in the accompanying illustration. As will be noticed provisions have been made upon it for all of the information found on the British standard medals. It means

#### By NORMAN C. LUMIAN

Track Coach, Aviation High School, Redondo Beach, California

NORMAN LUMIAN graduated from the University of New Hampshire and received his master's degree from Harvard. He coached at Morningside High School from 1953-1957, and assumed his duties at Aviation High School in September, 1957. Lumian has been appointed head track and cross-country coach at Orange Coast College beginning in September of this year.

as much to the boy, and it is inexpensive. Our certificates were turned out by the print shop instructor, at no expense to us. He felt that such a project was definitely within the scope of his shop. We are sure that the cost, if these were produced by a commercial printer, would be moderate.

When we spoke of the English system, club, team, county, and national standards were mentioned. Why could not we emulate that idea by setting up, with the cooperation of fellow track coaches, league or conference, state or regional, and national standards? This system would be an excellent incentive for track and field.

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OURNAL

# Play of the Catcher

(Continued from page 30)

how many steps there are to the screen. Pop flies that go behind the plate (foul) will normally curve back toward fair territory as they come down. For this reason, the catcher plays the ball away from his body (Illustrations [3, [4, and [5), thus allowing for the curving ball.

The catch should be made chest high with the mitt and bare hand up - thumbs towards the outside.

Pop flies that are hit in fair territory or directly over the catcher's head will curve away from the catcher as the ball comes down. Here again, the catcher must flip off his mask away from the ball (Illustration K1), look for the ball quickly, and move out, running on the balls of his feet to avoid jarring, thus causing the ball to be blurred (Illustrations K2 and K3). On this type of pop fly the catcher plays the ball just off his forehead, as it will curve away from him at the last moment (Illustration K4). This action enables the catcher to catch the ball in normal position with the pocket of the glove face up and chest high (Illustrations K5 and K6). By playing the ball as though it would hit him on the head, he is making allowance for any lastminute adjustment either forward or backward.

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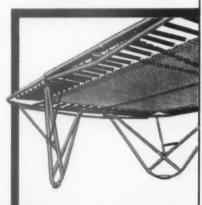
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# **Explosive Power**

(Continued from page 18)

a week, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

2. All candidates are weighed to determine the initial weight with which each subject will exercise. The initial weight to be used by each subject is equal to one-fourth of the subject's body weight. Add five pounds for each additional day of exercising. In addition to this increase in weight, if more than ten repetitions are performed on the third set of exercises, add one pound for each repetition over ten on the following day.

3. The duration of the exercises consists of three sets of repetitions. The first two sets consist of ten repetiions each, and the third set consists of doing as many as possible.

4. The amount of the rest period between each set of repetitions is not to exceed one minute. In other words, the individual performs ten repetitions of heel raising, rests one minute, performs another set of ten repetitions, rests another minute, then performs the third set, trying to do as many as he possibly can,

5. Do not decrease the weight. If less than ten repetitions in a third set are performed, the individual remains at the same weight the following train-

ing day. 6. Measurement of the data is confined to the use of the Sargent jump and leg dynamometer. Sargent jump and leg strength scores are measured prior to the use of the weight training program in order to measure improvement at the end of each week and at

the completion of the study. 7. The groups are tested once a week on Friday previous to the workout for that day on the Sargent jump and also on leg strength scoring.

8. There are two sets of exercises: 1. The heel raising with resistive weights, using the overload principles. 2. The deep knee bends with weights, using the overload principles.

9. The heel-raising is performed with the subject's toes placed on a board two inches thick. The resistive weights in the form of a barbell are placed on the subject's shoulder. The bar is padded with sponge and towels in order to distribute the weight more evenly over the subject's shoulders and make him more comfortable in lifting the weight. A repetition constitutes the rising up on the toes (with less fully extended and knees locked) to the greatest degree possible and then releasing back to the standing position with heels on the floor.

10. In the deep knee bend exercise. the weights are placed on the subject's shoulders as indicated in the heel-raising exercises. A repetition constitutes bending of the knees and lowering of the torso while keeping the back straight (perpendicular to the floor). The subject must do this on his toes in order to balance himself. The knees are flexed until the anterior surface of the thighs are parallel to the floor. Then the subject extends his legs, moving his body into a standing position and keeping his back straight.

11. As a safety factor in both the heel raising and toe raising exercises.

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EDWARD STEITZ received his B. S. degree from Cornell where he participated in basketball and baseball. In 1948 he received his master's degree from Springfield College. In addition to his duties as basketball coach and director of athletics at Springfield College, Steitz is director at large for Little League Baseball, an athletic consultant for the air force, and national chairman of the research committee of the National Basketball Coaches Association.

the barbells or weights are attached to ropes and pulleys and guided up and down with the performer in order to prevent them from falling on the subject should he drop them.

Through the use of a pulley system using five to one mechanical advantage, a subject is able to raise and lower the weights effectively. Accompany this network of ropes with two safety cables to further prevent any accident. We found this arrangement safe and convenient to operate along with being very inexpensive to arrange.

In case a pulley system is not available, a wooden stand that will hold the weights can be used. The important factor to keep in mind is to have a protective device for eliminating the possibility of having the weights fall on the participant.

Although our research has been used primarily with basketball players, (Continued on page 67)

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coaches of other sports such as football, track, baseball, etc., have indicated a strong interest in our program and can visualize some very significant use of it in building leg strength for their particular sport.

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